

SAMPAN



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A Quarter Century of Change For Boston's Asian Community

The 25th Anniversary Edition of the Sampan



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THE SAMPAN

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STORIES

Jimmy Yee's Workplace

(James Yee, 31, maintains fire alarm systems in the Boton Public Schools. Over the last year his department's Asian and black workers have been receiving a series of hate letters in which the author disparages Asians and blacks. The letters are threatening and insulting to minorities. Yee spoke about his experiences in the workplace in a recent Sampan interview.)

I was born in the Old Pine Street Inn neighborhood. My family moved out of there after a year or so and moved to Castle Square in the South End. That neighborhood was diverse. We had blacks, we had whites, we had Hispanics, we had Chinese. And everyone got along together in the neighborhood. It was a very comfortable neighborhood to be in.

I went to Charlestown High from 1980 to 1984. And before that I went to Clarence Edwards Middle School in Charlestown, so I spent eight years of my life going to school in Charlestown.

After high school I was offered a job through the school department. It was a promised job. Whoever had taken the electrical program at Charlestown High was supposed to have a guaranteed job when they graduated. Someone from the School Department had come in and asked me if I wanted to go downtown and look into a job as an assistant supervisor in the electrical division. In July 1984 I started working there.

My job is to go to buildings and protect people's lives and property. I'm concerned with anything that has to do with the fire alarm system. I'm supposed to ensure everyone's safety. That's my job, day in and day out.

In 1984, when I first started the job, it wasn't a very comfortable atmosphere. When I first walked into the office I knew I was a young guy right out of high school. I looked around and looked into people's faces to try to get a sense of how people felt towards me because I was new and young. And I saw anger on a lot of the guys' faces in the electrical division. This is day one. I looked at myself. I asked myself why thousands of times. I felt I was different. I didn't see any Asians working on the department's fire alarm crews. So I kept telling myself that maybe I'm the first one and the only one. I felt very uncomfortable.

As time went on my co-workers would come up to me and try to frighten me by telling me things like, layoffs are coming, layoffs are coming, and it's the lowest man on the totem pole who goes first. And I kept asking myself, Who's the lowest guy on the totem pole? And I said, That's me. And that would stress me out, every day going home after being subjected to that from co-workers. I felt that I was not wanted there and they were looking for any avenue to get me out of there, to stress me out and make me leave before I even put a year in.

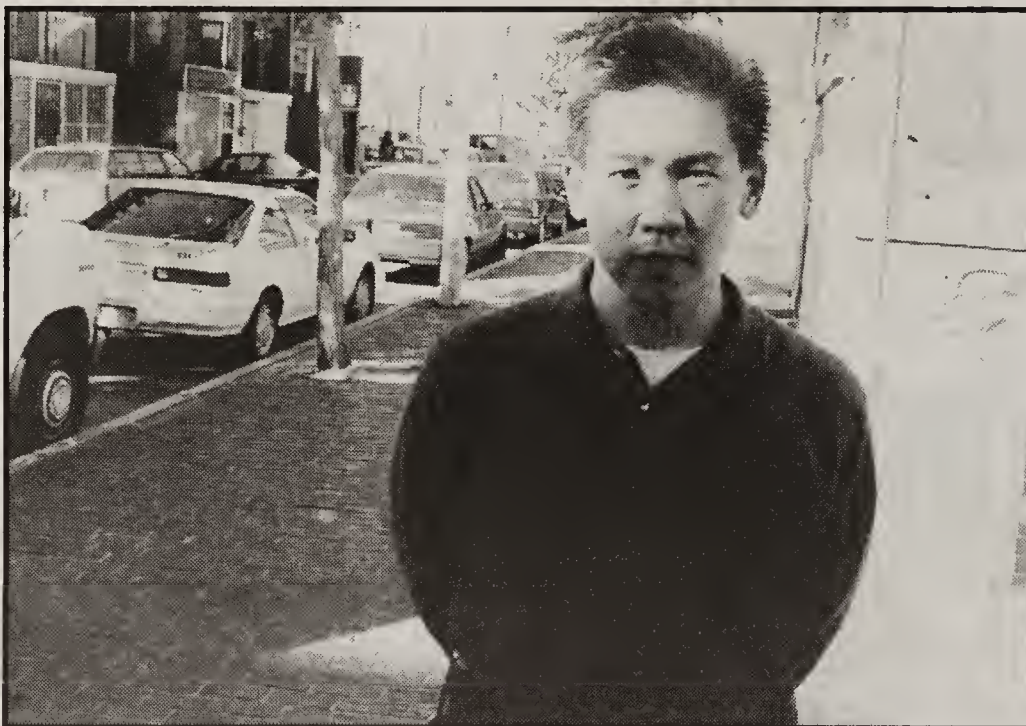
And I told myself I'm going to work and see if I like the job. But every few days the same thing would pop up again. Then the next twist was: Oh Jimmy, make sure you take the Police Department exam, make sure you take the Fire Department exam. I'm sure you can get in there.

It was another sign of their telling me they don't want me here. And I felt, how come they don't want me here? And I felt very uncomfortable being a young guy trying to do good and do my job the right way.

My father didn't really have any suggestions; he would just tell me to go to work. And my mother told me to just go to work and keep my nose clean and don't start any trouble. And I said, Well I'm doing that. And I'd come home and tell my mother, Look, I'm stressed out, I'm bothered, there's something at work, people are bothering me, and I don't know what to do. It's such a tough situation; you don't want to involve your parents because they have enough problems raising the children in the family. I have one sister and three brothers. My dad

was born in mainland China and my mother was born in Los Angeles, California.

As time went on, after my first year of being on the job, they offered to put me on a rotation list to make overtime, to make more money. And one of the bosses from management had approached me and asked if I would like to be on the list. And at that time, I thought, yeah that would be nice, I could make some more money. And I was determined to do it. And as soon as he asked me again I looked around and could just see the faces telling me, Don't you dare put your name



Jimmy Yee

on that list. So again I declined because at that moment my life was more important - being alive and healthy - than being harassed.

Part of it was because I was Asian and part of it was my youth. A lot of older guys were in their 40s, so they didn't really appreciate my coming in and being so young. They knew if I stayed there a long time I would probably be in their position in 10 years.

When 1985 came around, I was working in a school in East Boston. I was by myself because my supervisor was out that day. I wanted to test the fire alarm, and I had to run to the basement. As I was coming down the stairs near the end of the day, everyone was going home; the students were coming down. And I was grabbed by a shop teacher. He hit me in the chest with both of his hands. He grabbed me by the sweater and picked me up off the floor. He held me suspended in the air. I asked him to put me down and he wouldn't put me down. I just kept saying, Put me down, put me down. He was telling me, Look, you're running down the wrong side of the staircase. I told you students all to get on the other side of the railing and come down.

He thought I was a student, and I told him I was not a student. I work for the city. Please put me down. He would not release me. But how could I make a complaint against someone who was that big. This guy was a big guy; he was a sheet metal shop teacher, so he was a big burly guy. The only reason he put me down was that some of his students were coming down the stairs and they screamed, That's the guy who tests the fire alarms. So then he put me down. I was assaulted. I said, oh God, what's going on? That was pretty traumatic, to just keep thinking about what had just happened. I contacted my director and he filed a complaint. The teacher tried to apologize for what he did, but he didn't want to apologize that day.

I didn't think he should be manhandling any students. I was planning to file charges but I said, no I don't want to start any trouble; I'm so new to the job; I just won't make any waves. So I went back to the school. The principal had to intervene. He said, Oh just shake his hand and we can let bygones be bygones. And, you know, after I shook his hand, I was not happy. Because he wasn't assaulted; I was assaulted. I was picked up off the floor. It just felt very uncomfortable going into that building. That building

has closed and the shop teacher has retired, but that memory is still fresh in my mind.

As years went by I was assaulted over and over. The first time it was by a teacher, but the second time it was by a principal. The next one was by a supervisor. The one after that was someone from management. And all these assaults had taken place on School Department property.

The second time was 1992, on Dorchester Avenue. I was coming in from a call and going in to do some daily reports. I was coming through a door and a principal had come out of the door and asked me for some classroom clocks. I said, I don't have any at the moment; I told you that at the school. When I get them I will bring them to you. But he was so persistent. He comes up to me; he looks down on me - he was a tall fellow - and he puts his finger in my chest; he starts poking me and degrading me by saying, Hey you, hey you. Are you listening to me? Hey you, I'm talking to you down there. And it just blew my mind; he's poking me straight in the chest. I was like, What is this guy? I felt very uncomfortable and this is a principal. You would think that people with that type of status would act professionally.

There was another occasion when I was in the warehouse with a supervisor and the supervisor was just rapping with me and there was no one around. He touched me on the side of my arm. Then he touched me a little more, like tapping me, so I pushed his hand away. The next thing you know he had taken me and thrown me on the ground, and placed me in a headlock and threatened to snap my back.

He was kidding me at first, but when I tried to move his hand away, to keep him away from me, he said I was aggressive. He was playing around but he was trying to irritate me and see if I would yell, see what kind of emotions I would let out. He was my supervisor for a short time. It's like, I would never forget that day he threw me on the ground and threatened to snap my back. And he's still working there, so it's hard for me to go into the office and see this guy still working there all these years after what he did to me.

There was one incident that took place in September, 1996. We had gone to Court Street for a special meeting to ask my director about the procedures involved in being promoted to permanent status. And we had written out a list of things, of questions we wanted to ask. So we showed up at his office and we knocked on his door and he invited us in; he was very nice about it; he made some phone calls while we were standing there. The next thing you know he was answering some questions. But the very next day he called a mandatory meeting at Dorchester Ave. I was late by five minutes because of traffic. So I was coming through the door with my partner and assistant supervisor, and he grabbed me around the arm. And he started grabbing me really tight. He started shaking my arm like I was a tree and started yelling and spitting. He was really upset. You could tell because his eyes were red. Because I was late by five minutes. He was my director. I'd known him since I was hired. When I was hired he was the assistant director.

He was shaking me. He was really really irate and I was just so nervous afterward. And he only stayed there for the first few minutes to tell everyone that no one was supposed to come up to his office without permission and he was going to dock everyone an hour's pay. He didn't want anything like that to ever happen again. Because he was claiming it was work stoppage and it wasn't. And later down the line the union had brought up the issue that it was not work stoppage. So we had about one hour's pay returned.

Continued on page 9

Running for Office in Newton

It was frustration with town government that inspired Amy Mah Sangiolo to run for alderman-at-large in Newton's Ward 4.

When the 33-year-old lawyer became involved in a neighborhood development battle, she soon discovered how difficult it is to gain access to Newton's aldermen. Either they didn't answer her calls or they didn't take her concerns too seriously, she says.

"The real issue is access to our city officials and that's what made me want to run," says Sangiolo, the first Asian-American woman to run for alderman in Newton.

Sangiolo, who is challenging incumbent Aldermen Dick McGrath and Roderick MacLeish for one of two at-large seats in Newton's Nov. 4 election, has been emphasizing the need for greater access to city government and attention to education and development issues in her pitch to voters. Politicians, she says, need to be more accountable to voters and more responsive to the real needs of ordinary people and communities. An average citizen in Newton, she says, can't even get a copy of the city budget to see how their tax money is being spent.

Describing her campaign as a "real grassroots effort," Sangiolo says that no one thought she had a "snowball's chance" of winning when she entered the race. Now, however, she believes she is within striking distance of her opponents. "I would like to think it's a close race," says the mother of a 17-month-old son.

In recent weeks, Sangiolo has been busy going door to door in Newton and attending community events to introduce herself to voters. She's gone to farmers markets and supermarkets, as well as local political events. "I've gone to almost every single mayoral debate," she says.

"People are really concerned about protecting the quality and character of their neighborhoods," she adds. "Newton is under tremendous pressure from developers."

Another key issue for her is the current state of the school system. In recent years Newton's schools have become increasingly crowded as the children of the baby boom generation entered the school system. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, school systems such as Newton's closed schools and sold them to be developed as condominiums when the school-age population decreased. Now the student population is up again and classrooms are overcrowded and, in some cases, short of books and other supplies, she says.

While she is unwilling to describe the current race as negative, she said last week's candidates' debate veered in that direction when her opponents questioned her integrity regarding a neighborhood development issue. Sangiolo, however, shot back that McGrath appeared to have a conflict of interest in promoting an ordinance that would likely benefit his business.

Sangiolo said her opponents implied that she had benefited from the creation of a charitable trust in her and her husband's name after Sangiolo raised questions about the impact the development of an old warehouse into an office complex and parking garage would have on the nearby Charles River.

Although she said the development was behind her property and would not have a direct impact on it, she was drawn into the dispute by neighbors who opposed it. She said she wasn't opposed to the development itself, only its size. She also believed that the 1,100 car parking garage should be moved an additional 20 feet from the

Charles River. After taking her concerns to the Conservation Commission and being rebuffed, she appealed to the Department of Environmental Protection. Arguing that she hadn't a strong case against the project, the developers offered to reach a settlement by paying her \$100,000.

But Sangiolo, who had worked for various environmental organizations in Washington prior to coming to Newton about two years ago, says she hadn't opposed the size and location of the garage because she wanted to get money from

that the Asian population of Newton is now as high as 10,000, compared to the 3,700 figure shown in the 1990 Census. Sangiolo, who has targeted Asian voters through mailings and phone calls, is also trying to get more Asians registered. She says there are now slightly more than 1,000 Asians registered to vote in Newton.

Sangiolo believes an Asian candidate has the potential to draw more Newton Asians into the political process. "I think the Asian community wants someone to be their voice," she says. And while she says she has met with some skepticism

from Asian-born residents because she was born and raised in Weehawken, New Jersey - just across the river from New York City - she says she has maintained contact with her Asian roots. As a student at Barnard College in New York she was a member of a Chinese student group and the Asian Students Union, while at Rutgers University Law School she was president of the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association.

Although the Asian community in Newton in the past has not formed a cohesive voting bloc, Sangiolo is hoping one will develop in this election and lead to greater Asian involvement in community affairs. And while some Asian parents are involved in the PTA and other school activities, she says Newton's Asians in general do not appear to have developed a strongly linked Asian community.

Sangiolo believes Newton's Asian community has a range of concern, including language and cultural obstacles, and discrimination. Also worrisome to many Asian-born parents are

generational and cultural conflicts with their American-born children. Grades, for example, may not be high enough or a daughter may want to pierce her ears, she says. A child may be interested in writing poetry but his parents may want him to pursue a career in business. She tells the parents that it's natural for teenagers to rebel. The children, meanwhile, sometimes have their own problems to contend with in the mainstream world. "I've heard that Asian students have it difficult" because they are often stereotyped as being good in math and getting into good schools, she says.

Sangiolo says that when she first started her campaign people were surprised to see she was Asian because of her name (her husband is of Italian ancestry). Many people also expected her to fit the "typical stereotype of an Asian woman" as being quiet and "mousy." But, she says, they soon found out that she was quite willing to speak her mind.

Although her decision to run was somewhat spontaneous, she says that politics has always an interest. "I thought the whole political process was interesting," she says, adding that she believes her American-born Chinese father and Japanese-born mother are proud of her efforts, though they also seem to question why she would expend so much time and energy seeking a seemingly thankless job.

Sangiolo, who has received the endorsement of the Asian Pacific American Agenda Coalition, believes that Asians have not sought public office in large numbers because they tend to focus more on their jobs, their children, and children's schooling. She suggests that many may think they don't have to get involved in politics because other people will be there to do the political work for them.

-Robert O'Malley



Newton alderman-at-large candidate Amy Mah Sangiolo

Photo by Marcy Stuart

the developers. "This wasn't a matter of it impacting our property," she says.

After her attorney advised her that her appeal would likely fail, Sangiolo instead asked the developers to contribute \$300,000 for a trust fund to support environmental projects and community concerns. The developers eventually agreed to donate \$200,000, and Sangiolo and her husband John, an electrical engineer, were named trustees. The money from the charitable, environmental trust would be used to fund Charles River watershed projects and other community projects.

"They (her opponents) are saying I have control over community money," says Sangiolo, who adds that her response to the criticism is: "You guys should have done your job. You should have been there." And while "the general consensus is that 'she did a really nice thing' by developing the community trust, some residents appear to question her motives, saying, 'What's her angle? What's her motive?'" Sangiolo, however, finds such a response offensive and questions whether it's possible to do anything altruistic in today's society without having someone question your motives.

"They're making this into a huge issue," says Sangiolo, who pointed out that McGrath stood to gain business by proposing an ordinance allowing residents to have a second water meter free of charge. She said that McGrath, who has a sprinkler business, also sells water meters.

"We were at a really hot debate last night," she says, adding that she hopes that the campaign won't turn negative but points out that her opponents were the first to move in that direction by attacking her integrity. "He's talking about my personal ethics," she says of one opponent.

Sangiolo, who is of Chinese and Japanese ancestry, is courting Asian voters to strengthen her campaign. She said one estimate suggests

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call Marlene Ching (493-2981) or David Chao (493-2232).

Language Rights Conference '97: Oct. 25, UMass Boston, Wheatley Bldg., Boston. Come hear and share information about organizing quality bilingual education; California's anti-bilingual education initiative; ebonics, interpreters services, etc. Fee: \$25; \$15 students and low-income. For reservations and inf. call the MA English Plus Coalition at 457-8888.

VOICES

Sampan: A Community Voice for 25 Years

By Anping Shen

It was eight years ago when I first read the Sampan at the International Student and Scholar's Office at Boston University. I was immediately attracted by the unique character of this bilingual newspaper. I cannot say that it was "love at first sight." However, since then I have always managed to read, more or less, this community-oriented newspaper, whenever it is available. I guess that's the typical way we have maintained most of our friends given our crazy lifestyle in this "new" world.

Later, for a community education course project, I visited the Asian American Civic Association (AACA) where the unassuming Sampan office is located. I gained a greater understanding of AACA's and the Sampan's mission and their commitment to serving the Chinese and Asian communities of Greater Boston. While I know there will not be any high-profile fanfare for the Sampan's 25th anniversary, I think the AACA and the Sampan should feel good to celebrate their efforts to sustain a minority community voice, which traditionally has not been well-heard in mainstream American society.

For the past few decades, Asian minorities have been perceived by the mainstream media as the "model minority" for whom everything was supposed to be going all right. It is true that there have been many heartwarming reports in the Sampan - or, recently, in its cover stories - about many positive community activities, such as support for new immigrants and needy residents, the growth of Chinese and Asian community political participation, and family and cul-

tural activities. As a matter of fact, during my ESL class in Chinatown, I read one recent report from the Sampan on how four AACA students won \$1,000 scholarships to go to Bunker Hill Community College. Many of my students were interested in their success in learning English. Who knows, someday they (most of them are new immigrants) might share their success stories with the Sampan readers.

Unfortunately, things have not always been that rosy in the Chinese and Asian communities, as in other minority communities. It is from the Sampan, among other media sources, that I have learned a lot of inside stories about Chinatown community safety problems, workers compensation disputes, construction and land development debates, racial discrimination issues, and, of course, various "in-house" squabbles. While it is always difficult to be critical of one's own community behaviors (remember, losing face is a big deal in the Chinese culture), I think the Sampan has largely maintained its professional integrity. All the people who have been involved in the Sampan should feel proud of their accomplishment.

During the past years, I have also been a writer for the Sampan, thanks to the encouragement and support of both its English and Chinese editors. After I had written a series of articles regarding bicultural parenting, education and learning early this year, I received some pretty good feedback from the Sampan readers, some of whom are known to me, others not. Frankly, I have never received this much publicity after the publication of my academic articles. I now consider myself one of the Sampan's loyal

friends and venture to think that I have earned a certain right to share my expectations of the newspaper.

If there should be anything I would desire from the Sampan, I think there should be more insightful coverage of political and social issues which have considerable effect on the Chinese and Asian communities. Last year's stories in the Sampan highlighting the debate over Boston Latin School's racial admissions quota is a good example. New England Medical Center expansion could be another one. And with mayoral and gubernatorial elections approaching, I think the Sampan readers should be informed - or probably even educated - regarding the candidates and the pertinent issues.

In the same vein, I would like to see an editorial section in the Sampan. This is the place where the newspaper can gain more influence, attention, and tension! And certainly a broader readership. I would argue that the editorial is where the newspaper raises its own voice on the important issues; it is the newspaper's soul! If I'm busy, I usually skip many sections of my favorite newspapers, but I always try to read their editorials, even if it means just scanning the titles. I know it is very challenging for a community newspaper like the Sampan to have an editorial, technically, linguistically (due to its bilingual nature) and, of course, politically. But, hey, the Sampan is 25 years old now; it's all right to be a little more independent. The Chinese and Asian communities really need one (strong) voice, or two, or more!

On the Cover: New Year's in Chinatown, late 1980s.

Photo by Robert O'Malley

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COVER STORY

A Quarter Century of Change For Boston's Asian Community

The 25th Anniversary Edition of the Sampan

When Stephanie Fan used to walk into Chinatown stores or restaurants 25 years ago, she was almost always greeted by storekeepers who spoke Toisanese and knew her or her family.

"They would take one look at us and know who we were," she says of the people living and working in Chinatown in that earlier era. "You did feel you were part of a small neighborhood."

But when she walks into a Chinatown market or restaurant today, she says, she will often be greeted by people who don't know her and speak Cantonese or Mandarin rather than Toisanese.

In short, much has changed since the Sampan published its first issue in the form of a newsletter 25 years ago in the fall of 1972. Fan, who moved out of Chinatown the year the Sampan was founded, believes the gradual change in the character of the local Asian community began in the early 1970s.

For one thing, more people in Chinatown shops began to speak Cantonese rather than Toisanese as more immigrants from Hong Kong and other Asian countries arrived in Boston in the 1970s. Many of these new immigrants were the beneficiaries of 1965 immigration law reforms that lifted restrictions on Asian immigration and promoted family reunification. And with the normalization of relations with China in 1979 and the subsequent growth of the Chinese student population, more and more people in Chinatown shops began to speak Mandarin during the 1980s and 1990s. The growth in the Mandarin population was also stimulated by the growing wealth of the Taiwanese who were sending their children to study in America in greater numbers. Combined with the immigration of many Southeast Asian refugees following the end of the Vietnam War, the Greater Boston Asian community over the last quarter century has grown dramatically and become increasingly diverse.

A Larger, More Diverse Community

Over the last 40 years, the Boston Asian population has been growing steadily, from an estimated 5,200 Asians in the city in 1960, to 7,900 in 1970, 15,000 in 1980, and 30,388 in 1990. US Census figures for Asians and Pacific Islanders living in Massachusetts have grown even more dramatically, from 52,615 in 1980 to 143,392 in 1990.

The changes in the local Asian community have been driven largely by population growth and diversity. The end of the Vietnam War in 1975, for example, brought a wave of Vietnamese refugees to the US and eventually to Chinatown to open businesses. Although many of the Vietnamese who opened businesses in Chinatown were ethnic Chinese, many Vietnamese were drawn to the neighborhood to shop and eat in restaurants. Meanwhile, Lowell gained a large Cambodian population, while the Dorchester section of Boston became home for many of the city's Vietnamese refugees.

Although a number of long-time residents say a sense of being part of a small village protected from the mainstream world has largely been lost over the last 25 years, some also point out that a new openness to the mainstream world and greater participation in the larger society has been gained.

"Chinatown has opened up more and more," says Doris Chu, director of the Chinese Culture Institute. While "it was still kind of isolated" before the 1980s, it is now "truly part of the society at large," she says.

"Now there are more young people and organizations," she adds. "I think this is a very clear sign of the development of the community."

Growth of Community Activism

In many ways, the late 1960s and early 1970s was a vibrant time in the local Asian community. It was a period that saw the founding of the local Chinese community's most prominent social ser-

vice providers, including the Chinese American Civic Association (now the Asian American Civic

political influence in the community and with city politicians, in part because people associated



Taiwan National Day parade in Boston early 1990s.

Association (AACA), which publishes the Sampan; the South Cove Community Health Center; the Quincy School Community Council (recently renamed the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center); and the Chinese Progressive Association. In the 1980s, the Asian American Resource Workshop would also be founded and become an active voice in local Asian-American affairs.

The activist spirit of the period was in part influenced by the civil rights and anti-war movements of the time. Before then, say some observers, Chinatown was still largely an inward-turning community. "I think in the 70s what you had was an emerging Asian American movement," says David Moy, director of the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center. Reflecting the activist spirit of the times, American-born Chinese and others saw the need for more services to ease the transition of a largely immigrant community to a new country. It was an activism that had largely been absent from the Chinatown of the 1960s.

Twenty-five years later, says Moy, Chinatown has a sophisticated group of community activists to keep tabs on local developments that may impact Chinatown. In recent years, a community coalition stopped the construction of several proposed Central Artery Project exit ramps that would have dumped Artery traffic onto Marginal Road. "I firmly think the Chinese community at this point in its development is probably more politically active and ambitious than at any other point in its history," says Moy.

Although some observers have criticized Chinatown for its factional squabbling, Moy sees such conflicts and disagreements as a sign of health and vibrancy. It means, he says, that diverse

opinions are being aired. "I don't think it's fair to expect the community to have a homogenous approach to these things," he says, adding that in the 1960s essentially one organization - the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association - called the shots in Chinatown.

Political Complexities

But while some see changes in Chinatown politics, others suggest that below the surface the same small group of people continue to exert influence over how resources are used and who controls them. "I think that in many ways those who control the most resources in town still control the politics in town," says Fan.

The Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, for example, still has a monopoly on

with it have worked to raise money to elect Boston politicians. As a result, many local politicians and people in the community are still unwilling to openly criticize the organization even if they disagree with its actions. Moreover, its traditional style of leadership often clashes with newer models developed by younger generations of Asian Americans. "The traditional Chinese organizations need to be more process oriented," says Fan, who believes such organizations in the past have "always been more personality oriented than process oriented."

In contrast, some of the community's politically progressive groups are generally not associated with business interests and as a result have little influence over politicians. Moy, however, believes that may change as voters become more ethnically and racially diverse. Vote-hungry politicians may turn to progressives for support because they are better able to make alliances with ethnic groups outside of Chinatown who can provide them with more votes, he argues. "I personally think people want things to change faster," he says.

Bak Fun Wong, the principal of the Josiah Quincy Elementary School in Chinatown, believes two forms of political leadership coexist in today's Chinatown: the traditional style associated with the family associations and the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, and a style promoted by younger groups whose members are often born or raised in the US and include organizations such as the Chinatown Coalition and the Chinatown Neighborhood Council. "Somehow we can use the wisdom of both," he says. "We have the Asian wisdom and we have the Western wisdom and it can be done."

"I always want to advocate for the second generation," he adds. "They are the ones with the best of two worlds."

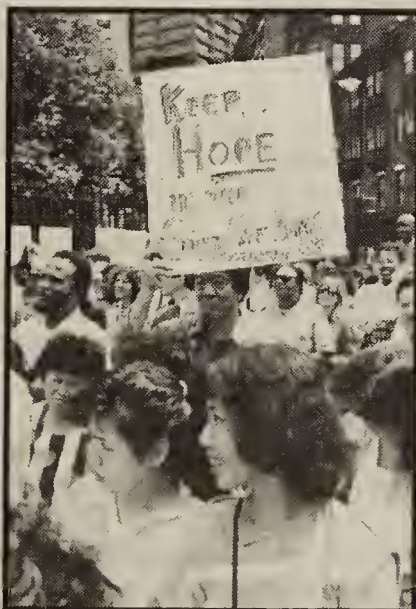
Yet, the growing political activism observed over the years in Chinatown has not been translated into a significant growth in influence over politicians or elections, though that could change if more Asians are prodded to vote in communities with large Asian populations. More Asian Americans, for example, are now running for political office, with Daniel Lam recently being elected selectman in Randolph and Amy Mah Sangiolo running for alderman-at-large in Newton (see story on page 3).

"We don't have the pure numbers to be a political force," says Moy, who believes the year 2000 Census is going to show significant growth in the local Asian population and perhaps foreshadow an increase in voting power in the coming century.

The Growth of the Suburbs

But while most observers suggest that the Asian community has become larger, more diverse, and more politically adept over the last

Continued on page 6



Southeast Asian State House demonstration in the late 1980s.

COVER STORY

Continued from page 4

25 years, it has also become more suburban. While most Chinese in Boston would have been living in the Chinatown area a quarter century ago, large Asian communities now exist in Newton, Quincy, and Malden. At the same time, those who do live in Chinatown appear to be staying there longer than they did in the past.

Although Chinatown continues to attract new immigrants, a shortage of housing, the presence of family members living in outlying areas, and the desire to live in less crowded surroundings has led many new and recent immigrants to settle in cities such as Malden and Quincy. And while a significant number of new housing complexes have been built in Chinatown over the last 25 years - most recently Oak Terrace and Mei Wah Village - sufficient housing is still not available to satisfy the demand. Recent immigrants, a large elderly population, and families who have decided to stay in the Chinatown over the long-term make up today's Chinatown population. "I think Chinatown has become a less transitional community," says Wong. "People now live here rather than stay here a couple of years."

Wong also points out that more families are living in Chinatown now than had been 25 years ago. "We have a more stable Chinatown in terms of residents and a more family-oriented Chinatown," he says. Before, the elderly and new immigrants made up the bulk of the population, but now there are more families who are staying longer. He argues that "more mixed-income housing" is needed in Chinatown to attract second generation Asians who may want to remain in the city. "That's one thing we all have to look into," he says, adding that the college-educated second generation often moves to the suburbs because housing is not available in Chinatown, where the bulk of the housing is for low-income people.

Income Gaps

While many restaurant owners and others have purchased houses in cities such as Malden and Quincy, more highly educated professionals have tended to move to suburbs such as Newton, Lexington, and Weston. The high education level of some segments of the Asian population also appears to be widening the income gap within the local community. "The gap between the haves and the have-nots is going to be bigger," says Wong, who adds that the haves tend to be the American-born or Asian-born who came here to attend universities. "The Asian community is getting big but you can see the discrepancy between the rich and the poor," he says.

"Chinatown has made some progress but it's still being stereotyped as a ghetto," Wong continues. People in Chinatown are still sometimes stigmatized by wealthier, more educated Chinese living in the suburbs. The idea is: "Oh you're living in Chinatown," so "oh you cannot make it," he says.

Wong believes the less wealthy class of new immigrants continues to need social services to address their needs. "We need more services for

the ones who have no resources," particularly job training, job counseling, and English language instruction, he says. In some ways, he adds, it's more difficult to survive as a new immigrant today than it was 20 years ago.

At the same time, the wealth of some members of the professional class continues to grow. Catherine Hsu, the founder and the director of the Chinese Culture Connection, says there are now a significant number of new Asian multi-millionaires who have made their fortunes in the Route 128 computer industry. These entrepreneurs came to the US to study, worked in the computer industry, then started their own businesses. While the late An Wang is the most well-known example of high-tech success, others are now following a similar path.

Ties That Bind

But despite these income and class differences, Wong and others point out that the suburban Chinese still have strong cultural attachments to Chinatown. While many Asians prefer to live in the suburbs, they still visit Chinatown to purchase food and eat in restaurants.

Moreover, some Chinese living in the suburbs still feel detached from their suburban communities. "I think there is a yearning for more participation in the community we are living in," says Wong, a Newton resident. Although many Asians vote in elections, some may feel isolated from the political and social life of their towns and cities. Such isolation, however, may be gradually changing as more Asians seek political office and attend local school committee meetings. "We're starting to feel we need to be involved," Wong adds.

Anna Yee, a project manager for the Women's Institute for Housing and Economic Development and a former Sampan editor, believes that the expansion of the Asian community into the suburbs was a positive development. "That really helped the Chinese community to be part of the mainstream, yet maintain our uniqueness," she says. A resident of Lexington, Yee says she feels comfortable living in the suburbs and suggests that interacting with her neighbors shouldn't be a problem for people who speak English. Moreover, Yee sees growing evidence that Asians are beginning to get more involved in suburban community life, particularly through the development of parent groups to address educational concerns such as the need for more Asian teach-

ers in Lexington. "So we're making that shift," she says.

At the same time, she adds, suburban residents still feel an attachment to Chinatown and the larger idea of a Chinese community. For example, many schools to teach Chinese language and culture have sprouted up in suburban communities in recent years. "The income gap has been recognized," she says, "but I don't think it should be polarizing." Just because people live in the

suburbs or have high incomes "doesn't mean they have less concern about the community," she says, adding that large income gaps also exist in mainstream American society.

"I think financially the gap is smaller than people think," adds Chu, who believes that "suburban people on the average have more education and better jobs" but have also made an effort over the years to bridge the gap between them and



Chinatown street, late 1980s

R. O'Malley photo

urban Chinese.

Future Concerns

As the area's Asian community approaches the year 2000, some Asian Americans believe that a far more politically savvy and involved community will emerge, propelled in part by the need to ensure that its members are receiving equal treatment in society. A dominant issue for many Asians is the need for equality, particularly in the workplace, says Moy. Although Asians have in general made significant strides in American society over the last 25 years, especially in education, he suggests many people believe that obstacles continue to exist in the workplace. "I think many of them have run into the glass ceiling," he says, adding, "that is a real concern out there."

During the 60s and into the 70s, Asians tended to retreat into their own communities largely because many felt that the mainstream society was not especially receptive to them. But Moy points out that the "mainstream has a way of making decisions that have an impact on the Asian community," thus making it incumbent upon Asians to get involved in their communities.

"I think the fact that Asians are speaking up, that more Asians are involved is progress," he says. "I think in the next 10 to 20 years we're going to see more progress."

-Robert O'Malley

Communications and Publications Coordinator

Office for Communications and Publications

The Office of Communications and Publications at Wellesley College is currently seeking a Communications and Publications Coordinator to assist in the production of all publications produced in the department. Responsibilities include: prepare copy and disks for the designer/printer; extensive proofreading; coordinate requests from other offices including follow-up; maintain publication files and slide library. Order and monitor office supplies; schedule appointments and meetings; oversee regular maintenance of office equipment, e.g., fax and photo-copying machines, printers, etc.; and perform other administrative tasks/ duties in the office.

Requirements: Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience. Previous experience in publication production desirable. Excellent proofreading, computer skills and command of the English language required. Knowledge of MS Word and willingness to learn new computer skills are required. Knowledge of QuarkExpress is desirable. Coordinate multiple projects simultaneously, set priorities, meet deadlines and respond to requests in a timely manner. Function as a team player, providing feedback on progress and status of projects. Excellent interpersonal and organizational skills.

If interested, send cover letter and resume to: Carolyn M. Slabodan, Employment Specialist, SP17, Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA 02181. For fullest consideration, applications should be submitted by October 15, 1997.

Wellesley College especially welcomes applications from ethnic minorities.



Wellesley College

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TUFTS NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE FUND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Tufts Neighborhood Service Fund is soliciting request for financial support, Charitable, tax exempt community-based organizations located in Chinatown or serving Chinatown residents are eligible to apply. Eligible organizations must be able to demonstrate that members of the Tufts community are involved with them as volunteers. Applicants should contact Barbara Rubel at 627-3780 for an application. Applications are due on November 18. Awards will be announced on December 22.

CITY

Chinatown Says No to Return of Zone

Members of the Chinatown community told licensing officials last week that they do not want to go back in time. In an unambiguous message to the Mayor's Office of Consumer Affairs and Licensing, community members forcefully stated their opposition to the issuance of an entertainment license to Deja Vu Showgirls to operate a nude dancing venue in the former Royal Hotel on Washington Street.

In stating their opposition to the license, community members cited increased noise, traffic, and the kind of street crime - prostitution and drug dealing - that many Chinatown residents and workers often had to contend with when adult entertainment was in full swing along Washington Street. Before the closing of the Naked I several years ago, many residents were often harassed and intimidated by people loitering on the street outside the club.

Members of the Chinatown community and others nearly filled the cafeteria of the Josiah Quincy Elementary School on Washington Street to attend the licensing board public hearing on the application of Deja Vu Showgirls to open a 246-seat nude dancing club at 640-644 Washington St. in the city's adult entertainment district.

The second-floor "juice club" would have one main stage and 18 satellite stages where patrons could pay for private dances. The club, which would be separate from Liberty Books II on the first floor, would not serve alcoholic beverages and would be restricted to patrons 18 years of age or older. It would be open seven days a week from 11 A.M. to 2 A.M.

A national adult entertainment company, Deja Vu currently has 45 clubs operating in cities across the country. The Washington Street club would be managed by Kenneth Lee, who attended the meeting with attorneys Daniel O'Connell and Bradley Shafer. Also attending the hearing was James St. John, Deja Vu's chief executive officer.

In last week's hearing, Chinatown community members and the applicant's attorneys exchanged taunts and argued openly over the merits and relevance of the community's opposition, with Deja Vu's attorneys suggesting that community opposition was irrelevant because the establishment was to be located in the city's adult entertainment district and the required application procedures had been followed.

In an apparent effort to intimidate licensing board director Nancy Lo, O'Connell argued that Lo's hearing of the application was a conflict of interest because she had promoted Chinatown community interests on a previous occasion as an advisor to the mayor. O'Connell also complained about the city's decision to hold the hearing in Chinatown.

While Lo was unfazed by the belligerent tone of the lawyer, some members of the audience objected to the attack. O'Connell and Shafer also drew the ire of the community on a number of other occasions, particularly when O'Connell argued against allowing members of the Chinatown community to speak. "We're not going to be subjected to public vilification," said O'Connell at one point.

Members of the community, however, responded by saying that the purpose of a public hearing

has been dramatically reduced in recent years. "If the will of the community prevails soon it will be zero," he said.

Community members and local officials also berated the the Deja Vu representatives for refusing to name the shareholders of Deja Vu Showgirls of Boston. O'Connell, however, said naming the shareholders was not a required part of the application process.

"I think it's entirely appropriate that they declare who the owners are, who the shareholders are," said Lynch, who added that they were "basically admitting they're ashamed of what they're doing."

Also arguing strongly against the application was City Council President James Kelly, who also scored points with the audience for highlighting the fact that the names of the owners of the Deja Vu were not listed on the application. Kelly held up a sheaf of documents which he said contained information on legal action taken against Deja Vu in various clubs across the country.

Shafer argued that the testimony of community residents opposing the license and the club was irrelevant. "You can listen to that all you want," he said, adding that their remarks had little to do with the criteria used in judging an application. He argued that the area was zoned for adult entertainment and suggested that nude dancing was protected by the Constitution in such a designated zone. Even though the residents obviously didn't want

adult entertainment, there was little they could do to stop it because the area was zoned for adult entertainment, he suggested.

Kelly asked the licensing board to postpone making a decision on the application for 120 days to give officials and the community more time to look into the background of Deja Vu Showgirls. The Mayor's Office of Consumer Affairs and Licensing generally has 30 days to make a decision.

-R.O.



Chinatown residents speaking at licensing board meeting last week.

R.O'Malley photo

is to allow people to voice their opinions. And when one attorney complained about being subjected to public vilification, one member of the audience shot back that the Chinatown community did not want to be subjected to Deja Vu's business.

In opposing the issuance of a license, several local officials argued that a new era had begun on Washington Street and that the people of Chinatown did not want to return to an earlier one. State Senator Stephen Lynch, who represents Chinatown, forcefully stated the concerns of residents in his address to the licensing board. Noting that the city should never have located the adult entertainment district so close to Chinatown in the first place, Lynch said there is "a new pattern of use developing in Chinatown and it does not include adult entertainment."

"This is a new day for Chinatown, a new time," said Lynch, who was applauded repeatedly during his address.

"We are public servants and you and I have a duty to protest these people, to protect these families," he continued.

"We've done them a great disservice in the past by letting this type of activity to go on," he said, adding that the number of Combat Zone business

PINE STREET INN

Pine Street Inn, New England's best known provider of services to homeless men, women and children has a number of openings at its Anchor Inn Long Island Facility.

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We are in need of bilingual counselors to assist the guests in accessing services we provide. The ideal candidate will help with issues dealing with substance abuse and provide education regarding HIV prevention. You will act as primary counselor in some cases and will make assessments and identify programs as appropriate. Demonstrated skills as bilingual and understanding of Hispanic culture a must. High school diploma, GED or equivalent experience, ability to communicate verbally and in writing required. Req # 77-92

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We offer a comprehensive benefit package for these opportunities. Applicants are asked to send a cover letter and resume including Req# for: Pine Street Inn, Human Resources Department, 434 Harrison Avenue, Boston, MA 02118. AA/EOE.

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PINE STREET INN

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Pine Street Inn, New England's best known provider of services to homeless men, women and children is seeking an Administrator for its Men's Inn Shelter programs. You will serve as a member of the Inn's management team and provide leadership, direction, and manage daily shelter operations. You will oversee all internal referrals within the inn's programs and serve as liaison to outside agencies when appropriate. Bachelor's Degree or equivalent, 5 years of progressive human services experience, 3+ years' supervisory experience and strong working knowledge of substance abuse and mental illness required. Good written and verbal communication skills are a must. Req# 97-117

We offer a competitive salary and a comprehensive benefit package. Applicants, send two copies of cover letter and resume to Pine Street Inn, HR Department, 434 Harrison Ave., Boston, MA 02118. AA/EOE



BUNKER HILL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Campus Police Officer - Chelsea

Resp: Patrols building and adjacent areas for Chelsea campus. Maintains secure campus environment; investigates crimes; restrains or arrests suspects when necessary. Provide assistance to courts or grand juries for criminal prosecution. Knowledge of standard police and law enforcement procedures; familiarity with Chelsea and surrounding areas preferable; may work varied shifts. Previous experience and State Police license or Campus Police certification are encouraged to apply. Ability to interact with multi-ethnic populations as well as adults and non-traditional students; second language a plus

Salary: \$436.96/wk - \$22,721.92/yr
Closing Date: October 31, 1997

Bookkeeper II

Resp: Responsibilities include making entries concerning financial transactions for the Bursar's office, such as, journals and ledgers on an automated system. Performs related duties in receiving and depositing funds; scheduling payment of bills; verifying accuracy of figures; calculation and posting, and maintaining records.

Qualif: Must have at least two years of full-time or equivalent experience; part-time experience in bookkeeping or accounting; excellent interpersonal, customer service skills and an ability to work with a diverse students population.

Salary: \$413.05/wk - \$21,478.60/yr
Closing Date: October 31, 1997

Transfer Counselor for Student Support Services Grant (An MCC/MTA Unit Position) Half-time 12-month Grant-funded position 18 hours per week (Search Extended)

Resp: Will assist students in transferring to upper level colleges and universities; design and implement group programs and workshops; assist new students through intake, advising and registration; coordinate the Mentor Program; assist with academic advising of currently enrolled students and will counselor students regarding their academic performance.

Qualif: Master's degree in Education or related field. Should have experience with personal and career counseling of disadvantaged students; should have a demonstrated knowledge of assessment and test interpretation procedures; and working knowledge of adaptive measures and learning strategies for disabled students.

Salary: \$15,912.00
Deadline: October 27, 1997.

Full-Time Position Music Department Professional MCCC/MTA

Resp. Teaches a load of (4) music courses, and participates in Department of College affairs and professional development activities; assists and advises students. Involved in continuous curriculum improvement.

Qualif: Master's degree in Music or related field required. Able to teach a range of departmental courses which may include, music appreciation, chorus, foundations of music and electronic music. College teaching experience desirable and commitment to the community college mission. Demonstrated ability to work in a diverse student population within a team setting.

Salary: 433,145.00 - \$35,599.00
Starting Date: November 7, 1997

Technical Assistant II

Resp. Will provide computer support for disabled students using the academic Computing Center; support the work of the Disabled Student Advisor in providing computer assistance to handicapped students.

Qualif: Associate Degree or equivalent preferred; one to two years experience working in a computing environment. Ability to learn and to apply knowledge utilizing new technologies. Demonstrated ability to work with a diverse and handicapped user population; strong interpersonal skills required.

Salary: \$436.96/wk - \$22,722.00/yr
Closing Date: October 31, 1997

EDP Systems Analyst I

Resp: Responsible for analyzing procedures and problems and to refine data and convert it to a programmable form. Will confer with users to ascertain specific output requirements in breakouts, data summarization, formatting for management reports; perform related work as required.

Qualif: Associates Degree in Computer Science or equivalent experience preferred. Must have at least two years of full-time or equivalent part-time experience in computer programming and/or computer analysis experience. Demonstrated ability to work independently and as a member of a team; and to establish good working relationship with staff in identifying their systems needs and providing technical support.

Salary \$560.55/wk- \$29,148.60/yr
Closing Date: October 31, 1997

To apply send resume and cover letter to:
Human Resources
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250 New Rutherford Ave
Boston, MA 02129-2991

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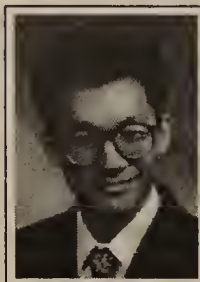
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Appointments with Dr. Pao may be scheduled by calling
(617) 449-0020.

STORIES

continued from page 2

More recently there's been hate mail received. It was received in September '96 but it was concealed for six to eight months by the management because they didn't want anyone to know about it, because they had passed the information off to the Boston Police. I believe the letter came right to 26 Court Street. It was addressed to other people in our department. Most of it was very racial. There was a lot of hate. There were death threats. No one has ever got a copy of the very first letter. Management had spoken to people and they kind of little by little let information out, saying there was a death threat made on the electrical division, which is my division. It was towards blacks, toward Pakistanis, toward Chinese. They have never found out who did it.

But during the last couple of years there was one person who had got phone calls and they were racial, harassing phone calls. He was black and from Africa and he was working at a division of our department. And he would get these calls every day. Nine months. And they would say the N word over and over. It was someone who knew he had that job. And I believe strongly that person felt he was in position for that job but he didn't get it. So if he can torment him and make him leave, he might have a chance at the job. And he just felt that this person shouldn't have the job because he was black. Every day for nine months he would call and say the N word over and over. Then one day he reported it; he complained about it; and they caught the person and the person was working in our division.

I know who the person is. It's so unbelievable because the guy who sits behind me is the guy who threatened to snap my neck; the guy who sits in front of me is the guy who made the phone call. Everyone found out who he was because it was taken to court and everything. They eventually promoted him and gave him a permanent status. It's so unbelievable that I have to work under these kinds of conditions.

I received hate mail at home on June 13, 1997. There was a lot of racial stuff in the beginning. A lot of racial stuff in the middle. Threats were made. There were bodily threats made to me and I was told I need permission to speak. If I don't get permission I'd be tied to a tree and whipped. I believe it's coming from the workplace but I can't prove it. I feel there's a lot of hate in the workplace.

Just recently I came into my office and I was approached again by my director. When it happened the first time I had filed a complaint against him. I felt if he could do it once, what makes me think he can't do it again. This time it was a different section of the office. I got into the office about 8:15 in the morning. When I stepped into the office I passed through two doors. As soon as I was passed through the second door, my director was standing there. He started looking at me, like just staring into my eyes, looking at me from head to toe. And I felt really really threatened. I said, God this guy is making me feel really uncomfortable. I said the best thing to do is to walk away from the situation. Go around him. Mind my business and go to work. I tried to walk around him. He placed his hand on me. I tried to walk, but he just like held me back. He pushed me forward and said, I got to talk to you. And I got really upset and I told him to get his hands off me. Don't touch me again. You touched me once before and I don't appreciate having you touching me. Just don't do it again. And I had to say it six times over and over and I was so upset. And he said, Oh I didn't touch you.

He wanted to ask about a meeting that was going to take place downtown. He said, I hear you got a meeting downtown. Is that true or false? And I was going to just tell him, yes. But before I told him, yes, he had put his hand on my stomach, put pressure on me to push me back. I was going in there to check on some paper work, to make phone calls, sign in, and tell my supervisor that I was present for work, but he prevented me from going in; he blocked my way; he barred me from entering my workplace. I was so upset, I told him, don't you ever touch me again. You had no right to touch me; you did it once and I didn't feel comfortable.

A story about the hate mail our department received and how the department treated the issue was in the newspaper. They were taking things very lightly because they had received hate mail and had concealed it from the employees for eight months. They finally told the employees there's someone out there threatening your lives. They had given us police protection, which was a person sitting outside the front door reading a newspaper. And that was our police protection.

And as time went on more and more of the letters started coming into the office. The letters were all hate. I believe there were probably about 10 letters. They had named co-workers and threatened to shoot them. The only thing they had said about me was I needed permission to talk. Some of the letters were the same. Some of the paragraphs were the same. It's the same person.

This stuff is like something that could come out of the 40s and 50s, when racial tension was still high. But it's still being practiced today in the 90s. It still goes on in the workplace. You would think as the years go by people would grow up and grow smarter and be more aware of people's feelings, but I guess racism still lives on.

They were jeopardizing our safety because we still had to go to work and we didn't know who the author of the letters was. Some of the letters were more threatening than others. After the story was in the newspaper I guess the office got really quiet. When we returned to the office nothing was said. But we were looked at kind of funny. Everyone was staring.

I had hired an attorney because I was concerned about the issue and my safety. I had a recent meeting with my union rep and he told me that members of my union were not too happy with the newspaper article. He said people are in line for promotions and they don't appreciate your putting an article in the paper; if they're going for a promotion it might hurt their chances. They wanted to know the names of the people who assaulted me and put their hands on me and I refused to give that information out. If they want to know let them go to my attorney. I told the union rep if those guys really wanted names just tell them to come outside, I'll give them names. Maybe these are the guys who are writing the letters and are worried that they jeopardized their promotion. At the moment I do (have suspicions) but I can't disclose that information.

Right now it's still being investigated by the FBI, the Boston Police, the MCA police. And the attorney general is looking into it. I'm very uncomfortable with the situation because I still have to go to work. When I go to work I usually have a partner working with me and we kind of watch each other's back, help each other out. But my partner's been hurt for the last three weeks, so I have no help. So I'm subjecting myself to going into these buildings by myself and we still don't know who the author of the letters is. It could be anyone. I don't want to point fingers. But my safety is being jeopardized because they don't know.

The School Department is very slow in responding. I want the person caught and I want change in the department. In an Aug. 27, 1997 superintendent's circular, Mr. (Thomas) Payzant (the school superintendent) mentioned there would be zero tolerance of racial discrimination or sexual discrimination. Everything you can think of was in that one memorandum sent out to all school department personnel. It's a zero tolerance policy. And anyone who thinks of retaliating against a person who makes a complaint or files a law suit shall be terminated or disciplined. That's a change. That means more rights for the workers, for the workers who are there now and for the workers who will be coming in the future. That was something good that came out of it. They should have a very well-thought-out handbook to give to every employee in the city; they should have zero tolerance on this issue. Anyone who practices it (racism), preaches it, or preys on someone because of it should be automatically terminated.

I want to keep working there. I feel that I put enough years in and I didn't do anything wrong. It's racial animosity; it's jealousy; so many things are involved. I was told by a coworker that one of my supervisors had mentioned to him that they should never have hired me because I was straight out of high school and didn't know anything. He kept telling my coworker I should have been 40 or 45 because this job was made for someone who was close to retirement with 20 or 15 years left. It's like reverse age discrimination. Now I'm too young to be working here.

Being Asian builds resentment. I feel that over the years Asians have been getting a bad rep because of the wars that have taken place - the Korean War, the Vietnam War. It seems like these guys have it in their head to never let that issue die. If they see someone of Asian descent they're going to go right after that subject and say, Oh this guy's no good, he killed my uncle, he killed my father. But that's not true because I'm from a different generation.

One supervisor has spoken to me about my co-workers, who are black. He says, You can sit down with them, you can talk to them, you can have lunch with them, but don't associate with them. And this was between me and him. And I was thinking, He must be talking about my friends, and they're black. Still, it was unprofessional for a supervisor to talk that way. If you got nothing good to say, you don't say anything at all.

To me it has to stop. It's just tearing into society. It's pitting people against each other. It creates a sick feeling and it shouldn't be tolerated. What makes people resent minorities? A lot of people have good jobs and they want to keep the jobs and they just want to pass them on to the next generation. And if a minority should come along and get the job by accident or by his own merits, they say it should not be. That's the heart of the problem. That's when things start happening. Tires have been slashed; it's just outrageous what goes on.

When I was going to the Edwards Middle School, some of the other students would mimic Chinese words. One day I was coming home from middle school and someone at the back of the bus had thrown something to the front of the bus where these sisters were sitting. And when they got off the bus they came after me. They mauled my face with their fingernails; they gouged my face. The school bus driver just took off; he wouldn't stop the bus. They didn't even know who threw the object; they just went after me.

During my years at Charlestown High I was always picked on for being Asian. A lot of the Asian students who attended Charlestown High were bilingual students and they were like very smart kids. And I was in the vocational section of the school, the electrical department. And a lot of the kids resented me for being there because they thought all Chinese students should stay in science and math and keep away from them and not associate with them. There were days when they would just take it out on me, threaten me, beat me up. I would never retaliate because I was just too small. They felt I shouldn't be in that vocational program at all. That's their turf. I feel that if you're Asian they get very jealous and don't want you there.

Every time I go to work I think about the problems I had in middle school and high school and over the last 14 years of my employment with the School Department. And it's very nerve racking, it's very stressful, and it causes all kinds of different emotions to come out that I didn't have before. I'm trying to keep a good perspective on life. But when they prey on me and practice this ritual - they believe it's a ritual - they try to turn me into an evil person. You go home stressed out, with headaches, feeling dizzy, with your heart pounding fast and you can't sleep, you're worried that someone is going to come through your door because the hate mail came through the door. They tamper with your car. What's the next step? It's a very high energy atmosphere to work in. You don't know what's going to go on the next day. One day they'll be your best friend; the next day they'll go right after you. They're like the weather.

-Interview by Robert O'Malley

See the Health Care Feature in the November 21 Issue of the Sampan

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ARTS

Chinese Singer To Perform at MIT

Renowned vocalist Zhang Xing-yan will give a concert at M.I.T.'s Kresge Auditorium on Friday, Oct. 31, at 8 P.M.

Tickets for the event, which is sponsored by the Chinese Culture Institute, Asia On Stage, and the M.I.T. Science and Technology Initiative, are \$15, and can be ordered by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope and a check to the Chinese Culture Institute at 276 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02116. Orders should be placed immediately.

Zhang Xing-yan, who is from Beijing, is a bass with a tremendous voice. Professor Zhou Xiqo Yan, of Shanghai Conservatory and Zhou Xiao Yan Opera Center, described Zhang's voice as "rich, broad, and smooth with a deep and resonant timbre in the lower registry." Professor Zhou, who is China's most renowned voice teacher, went on to say that Zhang's talent deserved to be heard on major operatic stages around the world.

Kathryn Cathcart of the San Francisco Opera Center, said that Zhang "possesses a rare and beautiful basso voice and will make a notable contribution to the classical music profession."

His program for the Oct. 31 recital will include Chinese art songs ("To the East The Great River Rolls" and "How Can I Help But Miss Her"), and operatic arias ("Viravviso, O luoghi ameni" by Vincenzo Bellini, and works by Verdi, Mozart, Ossini, Mussorgsky, and Gounod).

-Doris Chu

PROarts BOSTON ARTS ACADEMY HEADMASTER

The Boston Arts Academy, a public high school for the arts, will open fall 1998 at 174 Ipswich Street in Boston. Sponsored by the Boston Public Schools and the colleges of the Pro Arts Consortium, the Academy will provide intensive training in dance, music, theater and visual arts within a rigorous, comprehensive academic program.

The Headmaster is responsible for all aspects of development and operation of the school including staff recruitment, curriculum development, budgeting and fundraising. Experience should include: arts education leadership; teaching, preferably in an urban setting; use of multi-disciplinary curriculum and portfolio assessment; fundraising; commitment to ethnic diversity. Availability during spring 1998 required; full-time position starts by July, 1998. Salary range: \$68,000-\$78,000.

Boston Arts Academy is an affirmative action/ equal opportunity employer.

Resume, cover letter and two recommendation letters must be received by December 1, 1997.

Send to: John K. DiPaolo,

Project Coordinator,

Boston Arts Academy c/o Emerson College,
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For consideration for either position, please mail or fax resume by October 24, 1997, to: Human Resources, MCET, One Kendall Square, Bldg. 1500, Cambridge, MA 02139, or fax to: (617) 621-0291.

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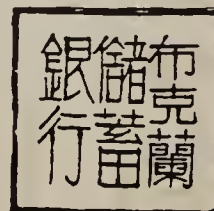
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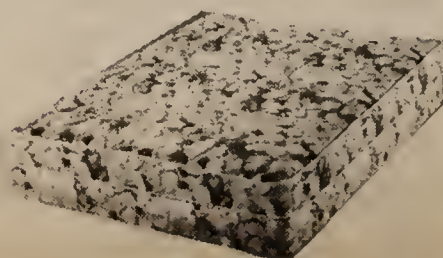
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感恩節四日禪修

時間：一九九七年十一月二十七日至十一月三十日

地點：55 Mass Ave., Quincy, MA

為讓現代人在繁忙迷亂的生活裡，回歸寧靜，找到生命深層的心靈，切實活在真正的人生，我們必須訓練我們的心，能在工作與生活當中，清楚地認識自我，麻州千佛寺暨普賢講堂定於感恩節的假期十一月二十七至三十日（星期四至星期日），邀請加州萬佛城恆實法師、恆朝居士，於千佛寺舉辦四日禪修活動（中、英文）。讓參加者從自心的體悟，提昇心靈的安定與對人生事理的觀察力，進而達到自信、自立的目的。

此次四日禪修的導師是恆實法師及恆朝居士，依止於加州萬佛城之宣化上人凡十五年。精通中、英語文，修持嚴謹，言語幽默，甚受大眾之歡迎。十餘年前他們兩位曾發大願，從洛杉磯二一拜到北加州的萬佛城，歷時二十九個月（八百英里）。他們途中的經歷、見聞，無奇不有，以日記來紀錄他們的進展與心得，後來出版了「修行者的消息」，讓讀者得到很多的啟示，對他們的願力及毅力更是欽佩不已。

本次禪修自十一月二十七日（星期四）早上八時三十分報到，住宿於千佛寺，請事先報名（全程參加者優先，未能參加四日者，亦請把握機會登記參加一、二天的日數），不收費用，歡迎隨喜樂捐，功德無量。禪修期間需要義工（廚房、服務台、總務等項目），希望發心菩薩支援，請聯絡普賢講堂781-863-1936，千佛寺617-773-7745登記。

華埠清潔日

日期：十月二十五日（星期六）

時間：上午八時半至十一時半

地點：華埠必珠街夾夏利臣街（富利銀行前）

聯絡電話：李洪文483-1011

歡迎各界人士參加掃拾垃圾清潔街道牆壁的活動，參加者有午餐招待，報到時請拿餐卷。

華醫健康婦女會活動

華人醫務中心健康婦女會近期活動有：

（一）一九九七年十一月一日（星期六），上午十時至十一時：

健康保養、美化人生、髮型示範、按摩治療，由華埠嘉麗髮型屋雷如鏡主持示範。

（二）一九九七年十一月一日，上午十一時五十分至十二時：

由郭展鵬醫師主講：「按摩治療」並示範，以治療因受傷及病痛引起之不適。

（三）一九九八年元月三日（星期六）上午十時至十二時：

由嶺南藝文院院長張金泉、李蕙蓮、江天源先生、余錦璇先生即席揮毫，示範毛筆書法並贈賀年揮春。

當代中國問題研討會

（第二十八次）

主題：中國電影現狀淺析

主講人：左舒拉（大陸著名影評家，作家）

大陸電影導演群現狀

歷史回顧：從幾代導演看中國電影

大陸電影與台灣電影之分析

張藝謀、陳凱歌與侯孝賢、李安電影之比較

研討會上並放映一部北京電影學院沈小華所攝實驗短片。

左舒拉先生為中國電影家協會會員，「電影藝術」雜誌副編輯，大陸著名影評人。其對中國電影所作的評論文章發表後多次在美國《中報》、香港《電影雙周刊》、台灣《中國時報周刊》及《當代》月刊上轉載。並著有選集《中國影壇的老少爺們兒》、長篇報告文學《王侯將相寧有種乎》、長篇小說《無常》、《豎起你的尾巴來》。

時間：一九九七年十月十八日下午六時半，

地點：哈佛大學燕京圖書館一樓會議室

查詢電話：617-497-5853 潘先生

生

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華美福利會

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教育你的子女有關愛滋病

日期：一九九七年十月二十日（星期一）

時間：上午十時至十一時三十分

地點：波士頓泰勒街九十號三樓十號室

主講：華人醫務中心健康教育部、內容：認識及預防愛滋病，並有錄

影帶放映

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協助華裔老人計劃

波士頓中華耆英會在南岸老人服務局贊助下，由十月起推行「協助華裔老人計劃」，為居於昆士、龍都（Randolph）、百靈蘭利（Burlington）、米頓（Milton）等南岸地區不懂英語的華裔老人提供諮

詢及轉介服務，例如協助申請家務助理、醫療站、老人補助金、老人屋、緊急救濟、糧食券及解釋有關福利的英文信件等。凡有上述需要的老人可於每星期二上午八時三十分至十一時三十分到昆士興國街五五〇號路德會華樂堂土庫向高先生請求協助，其他時間可到唐人街益石士街二十五號康樂樓求助，或撥電617-42-7458預約時間。

中國面人展

來自中國的面人藝術家湯鳳國教授將於波士頓兒童博物館舉行面人展覽。捏面人是有一千餘年歷史的中國民間藝術，出身面人世家、海外更是難得一見。展覽時間是十一月一日至十三日。湯教授還將於十一月九日上午十一時至下午三時在兒童博物館進行捏面人現場表演。

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*標準住宅權益信用貸款或價值計劃剩餘的額度必須為兩萬五千美元或以上，為波士頓銀行客戶提供。一九九七年九月二十一日的年利率為8.50%，此利率每月將根據「華爾街日報」的銀行最佳利率的變化而進行調整，但絕對不會超過18%的最高年利率。此貸款僅適用於一家庭到四家庭、由房主自住並作為主要或第二住宅的房屋。住宅必須投保財產保險。請向您的稅務顧問查詢有關利息扣減所得稅的詳細情況。有說話和聽力障礙的人士，請打電話給1-800-854-6891以使用特殊服務。本項目有效期截止至一九九七年十一月二十四日為止。帳戶開立文件以英文印製。

男低音歌唱家張興彥獨唱音樂會

朱蓉

十月三十一日星期五晚八時，由中華藝文苑和麻省理工學院國際科技部主持的張興彥獨唱音樂會，將在麻省理工學院的克利斯奇禮堂（Kresge Auditorium）舉行，張興彥自九五年到波士頓後這三年間曾若干次參加演出活動，最近的露面是八月間在波士頓艾默生劇場由中華藝文苑主辦的歌唱家音樂會，此外十月中旬他參加文復會主辦的紀念抗日六十年歌唱音樂會。又應牛頓圖書館之邀於十月十六日在該館有一次獨唱音樂會。

自從譚嘉陵的中華表演藝術基金會致力音樂工作以來，中華藝文苑便很少從事類似的工作，因為文化工作浩瀚無窮，有心人能分頭料理覆蓋面便可稍廣，若蜂擁朝一個方向奔跑豈不浪費人力？

但當眼前出現了才華過人的藝術人才時，我便禁不住想為他效力。若干年前一個十八歲的少年鋼琴家手中捏著一個紙條走進我的辦公室，紙上寫著我的名字和藝文苑的地址，原來是他的老師要他來見我，其實他的老師也不認識我，只是彼此慕名而已，不久當我籌備一個演出活動時，便給了他十五分鐘的節目時間。那次一聽，便驚於他的琴藝高超，第二年便邀他參加一個五人音樂會。音樂會舉行前數日，他的老師來電說，他也許不能出席了，因為他去參加一項國際鋼琴比賽（即著名的 Van Cliburn 國際鋼琴大賽）已入圍，決賽日正是我們音樂會的同時，我道了祝賀之詞，深為這小鋼琴家高興，並請了另一位鋼琴家頂替他出席我辦的音樂會。

音樂會次日那位老師來電告訴我，那小鋼琴家得了名次，他是唯一代表美國參加比賽得名的人，接著我看到紐約時報、倫敦泰晤士報的音樂評論，都盛讚這位鋼琴家的藝術，認為他的表達修養都超過得首獎的蘇聯鋼琴家。

這位少年鋼琴家便是來自上海，當時華人圈中卻沒有一個人聽過他的名字的應天峰。我當時急切地希望將他介紹給國人，便於次年為他舉行了二次演奏會，並寫了幾篇文字介紹他。如今應天峰的造詣已不必我再說了，他每一次演奏會都受到最高的讚譽。最近譚嘉陵請他在 Jordan Hall 演奏權威樂，評者理查德爾謂應天峰已是鋼琴泰斗，對拉哈馬利諾夫的詮釋已超過了哈諾維茲（Horowitz），而應天峰還是剛三十歲的青年，前途輝煌無量當不在話下。

應天峰音樂會後，我已「洗手」數年。當我聽到張興彥演唱時欽佩之情油然而生，便決意為他舉辦獨唱音樂會。那時我並不知悉張興彥的背景來歷，只是為他的音色、技巧、台風所動，他使我回想起若干年前在波士頓的傅海靜。記得首次聽傅海靜的歌唱是波士頓大學歌劇系演出的「灰姑娘」，傅海靜灰姑娘的父親。我在觀賞時已禁不住讚嘆不絕，次日理查德爾的評論便將他單獨恭維了一番。如今傅海靜已是在美國很有成就的歌劇演員。

張興彥出身北京民族音樂學院，早在進入該校前已於一九七九年獲內蒙古聲樂比賽冠軍，八一年又獲全國青年聲樂比賽首獎，之後多次得全國性的最佳表演獎。一九八九年在全國少數民族聲樂比賽獲獎後便被納為「少數民族聲樂學會」會員，中國有兩個最高的音樂組織，一是「中國音樂家協會」，另一便是「少數民族聲樂學會」，後者的會員必須是全國或國際比賽獲獎的聲樂家，以及對聲樂研究有特殊貢獻之人。

一九九二年得全國聲樂比賽亞軍，同年舊金山「太平洋之聲」在中國選拔歌唱者，張興彥被選並應邀到舊金山參加「太平洋之聲」盛大演出，該市贈予「舊金山榮譽市民」之銜。歸國次年（一九九三年）獲全國聲樂首獎，代表國家出席

英國電視公司（BBC）主辦在倫敦舉行的「卡第夫世界歌唱家比賽」（Cardiff Singers of the World）

九四年張興彥受舊金山歌劇中心邀請演出莫扎特的 Don Giovanni，該劇巡迴全美三十個城市，張興彥得到「最佳演員」的榮譽並「莫利士家族獎」的獎金。次年他到波士頓訪傅海靜。傅介紹他認識了著名的歌劇教授菲麗絲克婷（Phyllis Curtin），克婷教授聽了他的歌唱後，立刻將他收為弟子留在波士頓大學。

克婷教授對張興彥的賞識器重可從她的幾句評語中看出，她稱張興彥為「非常不平凡的歌唱者」。評他的歌聲「絕妙的丰碩，超然的品質，有高度戲劇性、情性的資源，以致他唱出的一切都深深地動人」。她並說在三十年教導專業歌者的歷史中，從未遇到一個歌者具有比張興彥更好的資質，也只見過三位能與張興彥相比的歌者。而這三位如今都是美國、加拿大和歐洲歌劇院中的演員。

「舊金山歌劇中心」的負責人讚頌張興彥「具有少見的幽美的男低音」，並預言他將在音樂界作出重要貢獻。

中國著名前輩女高音聲樂家周小燕讚張興彥的音質「丰碩、寬闊、平潤、低音位的音色深沉而富共鳴」。張興彥在中國和美國演出過多種著名歌劇，評論者一致推崇，此次獨唱音樂會除了歌劇選段外，特唱幾首中國藝術歌曲如「教我如何不想他」、「大江東去」、「也許」等。

張興彥獨唱音樂會票價十五元，耆英及學生半價，歌者之友及藝文苑之友可索取招待卷，請寄回件信封自貼郵票至 276 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02116，並說明索取張數。購票請電：617-542-4599 或 617-244-5152。

出版預告

下期《舢舨》將於十一月十七日出版，需翻譯植字的廣告及社區活動欄消息請於十月三十一日前交本報處理，多謝合作。
又本刊歡迎各界投稿、來信、及提供有關亞裔社區的消息。

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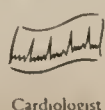
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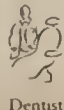
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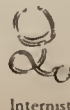
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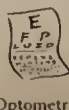
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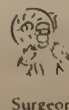
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Pediatrician



Pharmacist



Surgeon

中華藝術協會 傳統中國舞蹈團應邀赴滬演出記

陳玉祥

在「歡迎美國紐英崙中華藝術協會」紅布條與鮮花的歡迎下，中華藝術協會傳統中國舞蹈團於七月十六日晚抵達上海國際機場。想定居波士頓十九年中，我們也作了多少次紅布條歡迎各地來訪貴賓，這次居然輪到自己也有受到此般熱烈歡迎的一天。

我們全團二十人住宿在上海師範大學的外賓樓，兩人一房，雖不是豪華的大旅館，但每個房間內部都有冷氣、彩色電視、冰箱及浴室等設備。邀請單位——上海歸國華僑聯合會對我們的飲食起居特別關懷，深怕來自美國的我們生病，他們特意訂購數箱瓶裝礦泉水與罐裝可樂、汽水等供我們飲用，我也一再注意提醒孩子們不可食用生冷食物。十天來，我們沒有一人生病或感不適。每日早餐在外賓樓的餐廳食用，稀飯小菜，外加水煮雞蛋、牛奶及兩件小點心。午、晚餐也偶而在餐廳食用，每人三菜一湯配白飯。但大多數是在外接受宴請。孩子



藝協舞蹈團在上海

們對上海的小籠包特別喜愛，吃得亦樂乎，大家也盡享無錫的名產水蜜桃。

除了主要的幾場演出之外，還請單位安排我們參觀了上海博物館、孫中山故居、周恩來故居、玉佛寺、大觀園、城隍廟、文化村、豫園等等，並安排我們觀賞了一場精彩的上海雜技團演出。另外我們參觀了以科技聞名的格致中學、華僑青少年藝術學校及上海芭蕾舞學校，同時為我們團員安排了兩次示範教學。

值得一提的是靜安區青少年活動中心以及青浦縣為我們安排的兩次聯歡會，還有華僑青少年學校安排的歡送會。經過特別佈置的場地，悉心安排節目內容，讓兩地孩子結交朋友，互贈禮物，雙方在餘興節目中互相觀摩，並有踩汽球、頭頂氣球、餵食蛋糕、包餃子及數字繞口令等比賽，讓孩子們玩得盡興。

購物是孩子們最高興的事，我們也讓他們有過一次乘坐公車及地鐵到百貨公司購物的經驗。上海物價要比美國便宜很多，孩子們在買得高興之餘，也不忘為自己在美的家人及沒有隨行的舞蹈團員們買些禮物。

為期十天的上海行，領隊和隨行家長及我都負起很大的責任，大家都相當辛苦。但我們讓孩子們有機會看到遠在彼岸的自己同胞及自己的國家。雖然現今的上海已是高樓大廈聳立，幾條高架橋也都趕上時代，但我們也看到一般人民生活

的情形，住居沒冷氣；滿街不顧行人的腳踏車；落後的洗衣機而沒烘乾機。當地的孩子們專心地在悶熱且簡陋的教室內練唱、習舞及學習各種文化課程，深深地讓我們的孩子感到自己是多幸福，而且領悟到自己在福中不知福了。

這次上海行所受到的熱誠歡迎，和溫暖親切的接待，實在令我們由衷感動。相信將使我們每一位團員終生難忘。這是一個多麼寶貴的經驗。

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華裔余國榮的遭遇

朱偉憶

人物專訪



余國榮在華埠

一名華裔青年在其工作的波士頓公立學校被歧視騷擾達十四年之久。盡管他在美國出生成長毫無語言障礙，盡管他工作努力技術好，只因他是少數族裔，就遭到同事嫉妒侮辱、上司不公平對待，並在工作時被無端攻擊，以致收到指名道姓寄到他家中的恐嚇信，更表示了明顯的種族歧視動機，使得他在長期忍受辱罵之後，不得不訴諸公堂，為自己的權力與安全而鬥爭。

華人前進會的駱理德在報上讀到有關報導之後，意識到這是華人遭受工作場所歧視待遇的一個典型案例，她便與受害者聯繫，希望通過他的故事對整個社區尤其是華人新移民們進行教育，使大家懂得如何辨別種族歧視性仇恨犯罪和工作場所的騷擾犯罪，知道如何為保護自己權力與人身安全而鬥爭和尋求援助。

在華人前進會的辦公室中，當事人余國榮(Jimmy Yee)向記者講述了自己的經歷。

今年三十一歲的余國榮出生在波士頓，小時候在華埠的屋街與堡壘村長大，現居波士頓西洛士百瑞區(West Roxbury)。他當年在查里士頓高中讀書，由於該校有中英雙語教育計劃，所以全校華人學生約有二百餘人，而通常華人學生因天資聰穎、學習優秀會遭到

其他族裔學生的嫉妒嘲笑，但在普通班級因亞裔學生不算多，這種歧視不甚明顯。余國榮的遭遇開始於他進入一個專科培訓班之時，這類技術培訓班是為那些想高中畢業後盡早就業的學生所設，在上高中時就同時學習實用技術，培訓班還負責為學員介紹工作。當年這個培訓班就設在查里士頓高中，專業是電氣技術，同期的四十名學員有各種族裔，但余國榮卻是唯一一名亞裔。從那時起他就遭培訓班中其他同學欺侮，他們認為他不該參加這個班。至於為何進入培訓班的原因，余國榮表示至今自己也不清楚：「通常，高中的學生都是自己選擇走學業方向，還是走參加技術培訓之路。亞裔學生一般都會繼續沿學業方向發展，以便高中畢業後可以升大學深造，我當時也懷有同樣理想。但使我不解的是，我是被學校分派到那個培訓班而非自願報名的。因而，我自己很被動，其他族裔的同學也覺得我在與他們爭職業，所以有些人在吸菸酗酒之後就拿我出氣、打罵我。」

雖然培訓班的經歷就為還是十幾歲少年的余國榮留下了遭歧視的陰影，但究竟時間短暫，而且作為補償是他獲得了就業機會，儘管他是同期培訓班四十名學員中最後一名得到職業的，能在高中尚未畢業就找到工作也是件幸運的事。

一九八四年七月，年方十八歲的余國榮開始到波士頓公立學校系統的計劃與工程處上班，職責是保養測試公立學校校舍的火災報警系統，每個月要將四十餘所公立學校的校舍普查一遍，因此天天得在各學校間奔波，同時也得處理一些臨時緊急情況。

能夠在市政府管轄下的公校系統順利找到一份待遇不錯的全職工作，或許會被許多華人認為是余國榮的運氣，但誰知這幸運的起點也正是他惡夢的開端。

「我還記得初次到公校工程處的火警管理部門上班時的情景，我當時只是個十八歲的大男孩，也是到該部門工作的第一個和唯一一個亞裔，那里的五十餘名職工幾乎全是白人，很多人已在那里工作多年，當領班把我介紹給大家時，沒人給我好臉色看，他們從第一天起就把我這個華人小子當成來搶

他們飯碗的敵手。」余國榮回憶說。

在這種遭受冷遇的環境中，別人都對他不進行工作指導，他全靠自己觀察摸索來熟悉業務，領班對他也不冷不熱，而且每隔幾個月他就得換個新領班，沒有人願意和他長期共事。上班半年之後，部門負責人曾打算為他增加超時工作量，因為超時工作可獲一倍半工資，老職工們很嫉妒他這個新來者搶了他們的超時工作額。在環顧周圍同事的陰沉臉色之後，余國榮承認自己沒膽量在他人嫉恨的目光之下承擔超時工作額，因此在最初的三四

年裡，他一直拒絕做超時工作。

除了工作中的不配合之外，余國榮還經受了數不清的精神騷擾。他說有些同事常對他說他們不喜歡黑人，並對黑人進行騷擾，他聽著心里很不舒服，因為他覺得自己與黑人一樣屬於少數族裔，而這些白人同事偏偏對著他這個唯一的少數族裔員工講其他少數族裔的壞話，顯然是別有用心。直到余國榮在該部門工作了七年以後，那里才雇用了二名黑人員工，還有另外一名亞裔在工程處的能源部門做電腦管理工作，而迄今余國榮仍是唯一的華裔電氣維護技師。余國榮說，那些白人員工每逢風吹草動就跑去告訴他單位里要裁員，還常鼓動他去考救火員或警察等另謀職業，總之就是不希望他留在這里長安。這種長期的精神騷擾使他心中很不安，但那時他很年輕，不懂得這是帶種族偏見的歧視騷擾行為，因此一直保持沉默，並盡量友善對待那些欺負他的同事。

然而息事寧人的態度並未使余國榮的處境得到改善，反而更加惡化。他所受到的攻擊從心理騷擾發展到人身侵犯。

余國榮說他第一次遭人體力攻擊是在一家學校檢查火災報警系統時，而攻擊他的竟是該校的一名教師。當時余國榮正在測試警報，而校內師生們聽到警報後向樓外疏散，按規定都要沿一側樓梯下樓，余國榮因正在測試系統，所以站在另一側，那位教師見到身材瘦小面相又很年輕的余國榮，以為他是學生，便命令他下樓出去，盡管他解釋說自己不是學生而是測試火災報警器的工作人員，但那教師不聽，反而提著他的領口使他雙腳離地，他再三說

明也不放他下來。此事發生後，他報告給上司，他的主任打電話給那所學校，而學校卻想敷衍了事。

被欺辱之事不了了之，反而是自那以後，似乎人們感到他軟弱好欺負，人身攻擊的情況時有發生，余國榮先後遭同部門的同事、領班、主任甚至所服務的公校校長動手攻擊。有的白人同事常對他像調戲女人般動手動腳，還有人會將他面朝下壓在地上。余國榮不是身強體壯之人，何況他也並沒想用力回擊，但這些身心的傷害使他非常恐懼和痛苦，卻仍不知如何保護自己的權力。

事態的進一步發展，是他和另外幾名少數族裔同事收到了恐嚇信和電話。據說在一年多以前，余國榮工作的部門就收到過匿名恐嚇信，而部門領導只讓警方調查卻對所有員工隱瞞事實達半年多。而今年六月的一天，余國榮收到了一封直接寄到他家裡的恐嚇信，不僅信封上指名道姓針對他，而且信中用盡醜惡惡毒的語言對華裔進行攻擊，種族仇視傾向極為明顯。至此，余國榮不得不請律師並上告法庭。

他表示，在他服務了十四年的公立學校系統中有許多令人不可思議的怪事。另外有兩名黑人員工也長期遭到匿名信或電話的恐嚇，其中一人被恐嚇電話騷擾達九個月之久，最後總算查出打電話的是同一工程處中供暖部門的一名白人職工，奇怪的是，那位打電話的人被查出後不僅沒有遭處罰反而得到提昇。還有白人兩兄弟就因其父親以前曾在部門當過頭頭，便通過走後門進來工作，他們以前在公校系統做清潔工，並無電器維護經驗，其中一人的電氣執照也已作廢，可公校系統卻有一套土政策，使這類人能依關係後門關係進入本部門，而且仗勢欺人，為所欲為，他們一直對余國榮仇視有加，認為若不是他佔了位置，他們早可以調過來了。

余國榮的母親也為波士頓公立學校系統工作多年，曾在昆士小學做午餐供應服務。她也有被歧視侮辱的經歷，有時不得不回家流淚。余國榮表示小時候還不太理解父母們在社會上和工作單位遭受欺辱的感覺，直到自己有了同樣的遭遇，才深深地體會到少數族裔在美國社會生存的不易之處。

問到余國榮受欺辱這麼多年，是否想過調換環境與工作。他表示：「我熱愛現在的職業，我已當了領班，可以獨當一面地獨立工作，也熟悉服務範圍，因此並沒想換工作，盡管我不喜歡周圍的一些人。」他還說：「我是最早從事這個領域工作的亞裔之一，傳統上幹這類技術工人職業的都是

全美風采堂第十九屆懇親代表大會，於九七年八月十七日假波士頓萊迪亞大酒店舉行開幕典禮，大會選出全美正副總長，舉行宣誓就職。相片左起：監督人葛維新副委員長、美西副總長余祝佑(三藩市)、美西總長余文裕(斐匿)、美東總長余仕昂(紐英崙)、美東副總長余璞和(芝加哥)。

愛爾蘭裔白人，他們便認為這是不該由其他族裔人任職的領地，但這個種族多元化的國家，這種行業壟斷必須被打破，作為少數族裔也不能遭欺負恐嚇就逃跑。我希望以自己的抗爭為其他亞裔開闢通達此行業的道路。」余國榮承認公校系統的工資待遇還算不錯，他也按合同每年得到提薪，但別人沒幾年就可轉成為終身雇員，他卻幹了十多年仍然是合同工。

華人前進會的駱理德女士指出：在美國一些政府機構及公立部門中存在著根深蒂固的人際關係網與政治因素，影響到其招聘與對待雇員的政策，而種族因素也是其中的弊端之一。由於歷史的原因，一些部門被白人把持，雖然美國社會已日益走向多元化，那些人卻仍不希望少數族裔進入他們的領域。余國榮的遭遇正是這種情況的一個典型實例。華人前進會一向以幫助友人們爭取自身權益為宗旨，希望能通過余國榮事件教育其他華人人民，如遇到類似被騷擾、欺負、恐嚇的情況，應及早來尋求幫助，像余國榮這樣忍受這麼多年太痛苦，而且自己的軟弱可欺反而助長了他們的威風。華人前進會正爭取民衆簽名支持余國榮，並向波士頓市長和公立學校校監投訴，請他們出面解決此事。

除了波士頓公立學校系統之外，近來負責波士頓地鐵公車的麻州公共交通部門也發生類似的種族歧視案件，有人在停車場散布污蔑黑人的傳單。似乎在公立和藍領工人階級聚集又原是白人傳統行業的地方更容易發生明目張膽的種族歧視事件，可能是由於勞工階層頭腦比較簡單，行事方式也比較莽撞，不像白領階級比較了解法規，不太敢表現得太過分；而在這些地方工作並遭到歧視迫害的少數族裔們也同樣因教育程度不夠高和對美國法律不夠了解而不知如何對待面臨的挑戰。希望通過一個華人青年受到不平待遇的故事，使我們整個社區的人民都明白：委曲求全並無出路，只要你受到一絲一毫帶有種族仇恨色彩的惡意對待，都有理由去申訴上告，使施威者受到處罰，而自己有權得到補償。

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朱蓉表示：美化華埠、中秋新年慶祝等活動，使社區共同協力美化市容，掃街道，華埠的清潔有很好轉。

甄云龍說：波士頓的中國城以往被圍在由紅燈區和高速公路為界的窄小地域內，很難向外發展，但近年來由於社區民衆的努力，紅燈區日漸肅清，治安好轉，高速公路增建出口等計劃也得到限制，因而中國城的發展擴大更向四面延伸。而亞裔社區的發展擴大更不限於華埠的地理範圍內，華人和亞裔人口在整個波士頓地區不斷增長。

甄云龍雖然已在郊區牛頓市住了近二十年，但工作和經營以往一直離不開華埠，他的太太著名太極大師麥寶輝師傅開的武館也設在華埠大同村。但近年來，郊區華人的增長已使各行各業向更廣闊的領域擴張，麥師傅兩年前又在牛頓市開了武術分館，也是因為一方面郊區中美人土有此需求，另一方面不少學員對華埠的安全與治安問題懷有擔憂，寧可去郊區。甄云龍表示：雖然華埠已有很大進步，但人們對它仍有不良印象，也我們華人感到不太光彩又不很服氣，不過也反映出亞裔事業應逐漸離開華埠向其他市鎮發展的必然趨勢，那里也有眾多亞裔人口在等待我們的服務。

報導方向的轉變

余黃小娜女士指出：「中國城的變化不光是表面的而是實質性的，有些問題似乎依然存在，但出發點卻不同了。二十多年前華埠的住房緊張就是問題，那時大同村剛在建設，如今造起了華信屋、美華村，可住房仍然是問題。當年許多人搬離華埠是因建公路房屋拆遷不得已的因素，而現在人們遷出華埠卻是為了到郊區尋找更好的居住環境或更佳的子女教育條件。社會的發展也使社區民衆的生活要求發生了變化。」

甄碧鳳還指出：華埠的外觀也更加多元化，不僅有華人餐館店鋪，越南、日本、韓國、馬來西亞、泰國等餐廳商店也不斷出現，已成為一個全體亞裔共同分享的大家庭。

從「舢舨」誕生第三年起就曾有義務擔任中文編輯的余黃小娜女士說：「當年（舢舨）全靠「舢舨小組」負責，大家都是義務服務，後來一步步發展到由月刊到雙周刊，由中文全從英文翻譯到中英雙語各自獨立從而加強了中文版的地位，由義工到了有薪的編輯和廣告人員。然而隨著中英文媒體的增多，（舢舨）當年作為唯一華人社區報刊的地位已不復存在，新聞報導的功能也被更週期更短的日報、週報所取代，因此面臨新的挑戰。若仍墨守成規以不變應萬變則不能趕上時代的發展，讀者們也不能總以老眼光去衡量（舢舨）」。

甄云龍表示：「現在（舢舨）選擇了深入報導主題的道路是走對了，這正是我十七年前離開舢舨中文編輯崗位時就真誠提出過的建議。因為自從有了中文日報、週報還有廣播電台，雙週報（舢舨）的新聞效應已大大減弱，所以不必去搶國內新聞及社區快訊，而要在深入報導上下功夫。」

每一份報刊要吸引不同階層的讀者是很難的，「眾口難調」也適用於新聞領域。不少華埠的老讀者對（舢舨）擴大對其他內容的報導因而不減減少華埠消息有所抱怨，而許多郊區居民和專業人士卻仍嫌（舢舨）對中國城內的「內哄爭吵」涉及過多。原哈佛大學教授、劍橋新語主持人之一的陸惠風博士卻認為：「我認為那些來本地不久，或並不很了解波士頓華人社區發展史的專業人士和郊區居民才應更經常地閱讀（舢舨）」，此報堅持了不偏離地方性的方針，而且許多反映唐人街內部問題和發展情況的文章很有文獻價值，收集起來就是一部波士頓地區華人社區發展史，這是其他中英文大報都達不到的。

一位從中國大陸來美不久的讀者起先表示並不愛讀盡是描寫瑣碎瑣碎和中國城內家長里短的（舢舨），而寧可看新聞有評論政經文藝俱全的其他中文報刊。但後來讀了（舢舨）的一些封面故事及重點文章後，認為有些文章夠得上給中國政府領導人當「內參」的水平，例如關於亞裔政治獻金、海外僑胞對香港回歸及保釣運動等的看法，雖然從新聞性來講已經過時，但從其他媒體上只能零敲碎打的內容卻在（舢舨）上綜合起來，既有事實也有分析，卻不將主觀意志強加於人，而是讓讀者看過後做更深的思考。

還有不少讀者反應，有些原已知的話題，如拉丁學校的種族配額制、高球新屋泰格·伍茲的血統等，（舢舨）從一個新的角度去分析報導，因此給社區人士造成更大震動。

向美國學校介紹了多年中華文化，近來正在從事特殊教育工作的王啓華還提出了一個亞裔社區的新聞媒介應該注重報導的問題，就是家長與子女間的交流溝通，以及對下一代進行雙文化心理教育。她指出：「我們這一代移民來到美國社會已經經受很大壓力，但心中還有本民族的文化價值支撐，但下一代就更痛苦，看起來他們在美國成長沒有語言文化障礙，但實際上心理矛盾重重，既要融入主流與美國同學們平等，又得接受適應家長的東方文化環境。許多家長並不很了解美國，不要爭第一」的教育觀，也不理解孩子的苦惱，仍以中國式的教育方式對孩子學業才藝方面注重太多，卻忽視了心理上的培訓，以導致不少亞裔青少年心理障礙。為新移民提供的教育服務是雙語計劃還不夠，也應在社會認同與心理輔導方面更加強些。（舢舨）在雙文化教育與親子關係方面多進行報導是十分必要的，將有長遠的意義。」

不過，面對社會的發展，尤其是亞裔社區成份的多元化，以致原先主要服務於華人新移民的華美福利會已接待了更多的來自其他亞洲地區的人民，因此在幾年前將其英文名改成了「亞美福利會」。但目前似乎這個名稱也難概括其服務對象，因為來這裏尋求幫助的又多了許多東歐及非洲國家的移民。（舢舨）要滿足各種不同文化背景讀者的需要顯然更加困難。

甄云龍指出：「（舢舨）是本地社區的有功之臣，也對華美福利會做出了很大的貢獻，帶來的利益不能只算經濟賬，而是提高了華美的名譽和社會地位。因此，（舢舨）及其工作人員真不該被虧待，在傳媒技術與工具高度電腦化的今天，（舢舨）也必須在技術手段上趕上科技發展才能在報導上滿足社會的需要。」工慾善其事，必先利其器。」對（舢舨）發展之艱辛深有體驗的余黃小娜表示：「在（舢舨）創辦的前十年來，全靠了社區各界的支持，如今有了專職工作人員，但兩三個人的力量和平水究竟有限，要走深入報導之路，往往並不是一個編輯就能掌握的。因此，華美福利會和（舢舨）都應反省一下，是繼續發展還是停滯不前。當然財源與人力是實際問題，但首先要看人們的主觀意識是否敢於迎接挑戰。我們的社區成長到今天，已經不是只靠一個新聞媒體就能促進社區前進了，（舢舨）已失去了壟斷市場的機會。因此有其他媒体競爭也可以變成好事，主要看（舢舨）能否在挑戰中經受考驗。」

講到（舢舨）這個名稱的由來，據說是代表了在主流旁側的邊流中搏擊的小艇，或是起從岸邊到主流大船之間過渡運輸作用的小舟。二十五年來，（舢舨）就是在為新移民與美國主流社會之間溝通聯繫，搭橋作舟。然而，四分之一個世紀已過去，（舢舨）難道只能仍航行在主流之外？還是應該勇敢地向主流挺進，以一葉扁舟之輕小，闖入主流可能會有輝煌的成功，也可能會有沉沒的風險，而其前景則要取決於駕舟人，那就是我們整個社區和所有的讀者！

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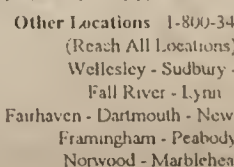
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華埠創建的歷史

一九九七年十月，《舢舨》創刊整整二十五年了！

從華埠福利會職工內部通訊開始，到向外發行的活頁簡報，到正式印刷的月報和雙周刊，《舢舨》駛過了四分之一世紀的歷程，伴隨著波士頓亞裔社區的發展變化，寫下了一頁難忘的歷史。

然而，汪洋大海中的一葉扁舟是多麼渺小，二十五年在人類歷史長河中又多麼短暫。但一步步走過這段歷史的人們卻懂得其在社會發展進程中的作用所在。

關於華人移民美國的歷史，似乎人所周知始於上個世紀的華工來美做苦力。實際上，早來美的中國人中不僅有過外交使節，也有留學生和生意人，尤其在美國文化搖籃的麻州和波士頓地區，曾居住過第一位在美讀書的中國留學生和最早來美經商的中國商人。但較多的華人移居美國和全美各地唐人街出現，確實是伴隨著美國鐵路和淘金熱而引來大批華工而起。

說到令華人們引以為自豪的世界各地的「唐人街」，亦稱「中國城」或「華埠」，前不久來訪波士頓的台灣僑務委員會副委員長在大波士頓華人文化協會(GBCA)講話時有一段高見，他說：「縱觀世界各地，唐人街的出現雖與當地華人口增長有關，卻也有特定的歷史因素。唐人街的產生，實際上是由於華僑們難以融入

朱偉憶

封面故事

所在國的主流社會，因而不得不以類聚，形成自我封閉、自我保護的小圈子。因此可以看到，凡是唐人街發展得規模越大越繁榮的地方，往往是華人受排擠、歧視、迫害越厲害的地方；反而是唐人街不成規模甚至根本沒有唐人街的地方，倒是華僑與主流社會能夠互相通融打成一片之處。」葛副委員長的論述不無道理，但許多地方的華人社區卻是以唐人街為中心而形成並逐漸擴大的。

波士頓的中國城也是從上個世紀的華人勞工們搭棚聚居地發展起來的，由地理位置的集中而逐漸形成商業與居住相間的都市區。繼而產生的早期華人社團組織，也是以結幫互助為目的，如同鄉會、姓氏宗親會等。

辛亥革命之後，中國政治體制發生了巨大變化，也影響到海外僑社。由於領導辛亥革命和創立中華民國的國父孫中山先生本人就是華僑，海外華僑對中國革命做出了重大貢獻，而祖國的進步壯大又為海外華僑撐了腰，因而海外僑社有了新發展。中華公所、安良公會等組織都是那一時期誕生的強大有力的華僑組織，這些團體已經突破了宗族同鄉的界線，而更注重商社及各個社團間的共同協作。迄今，這類歷史悠久的社區團體仍在本地僑界發揮著作用。

社區團體的發展

波士頓地區華僑社區創生發展的另外一高峰，是在六十年代末至七十年

年代初期。由於六十年代美國移民政策進行改革，開放了以往對中國人限制入境的禁令，華人移民人數增加迅速，也需要有相應的社會服務。而已經成為中華人民共和國的大陸正在推動與美國恢復正常外交關係的工作。這一時期也是國際上政治局勢相當活躍的時期。應運而生的華人團體機構，有些是為日益增多的新移民提供語言職業訓練或健康服務，如華美福利會、華人醫務中心，也有的是協助推動中美建交，如華人前進會、全美華人協會等，還有些為社區經濟發展或加強青少年教育的機構。《舢舨》的誕生也是在那一時期。

如今四分之一世紀過去，波士頓的華人社區與當年相比已有很大發展與不同。曾於八十年代初主編了《麻州華人發展史》一書的中華藝苑總裁朱蓉博士說：「當年編書時要挑幾位華埠社區的領袖人物選得費一些心思，而如今社區許多代表人物在不同方面都有很大貢獻。」她也回憶起當年的中華公所、華人經濟發展協會、華美福利會、亞裔青年協會等都是中國城有影響的組織，而近二十年來華埠內外以致郊區的華人機構如雨後春筍般湧現，有些後來者居上，使傳統的社團面臨挑戰。

在一九九七至一九九八年間曾任《舢舨》中文編輯、現任《星島日報》波士頓版的主編龍先生，來美國二十二年，就在波士頓華埠幹了近二十年新聞工作，對此地亞裔社區發展有深入了解。他指出：「二十餘年前創建的新的社區組織與更早期的老式團體已有很大的不同，新團體更注重新社團服務性，也與主流社會有較密切的聯繫，充滿活力，對社會和華人社區有著更實際的貢獻，但弱點是經濟基礎不夠。那些傳統的老社團反而都擁有產業資金，至今還在靠實力左右社區脈搏。而許多新社團是靠義工奉獻起家，靠政府撥款提供服務，資金財力有限，像華美福利會為社區服務多年，卻因沒有房產，在與中華公所官司敗訴後面臨窘境。」

談到波士頓地區華人社區成份的變化，許多人都說是向廣闊多元的方向發展。最早華埠街頭講的是台山話，六七十年代起廣東話已成為主流，而如今講國語的人也多了起來，甚至有其他亞洲國家地區的語言。位於劍橋區的「北京影視」創辦人谷繼成先生曾講過這樣一個故事：「八十年代初，我從

中國大陸來到麻省理工學院做訪問學者，有一次到波士頓中國城買東西，以國語向一位華人問路時，那人說：『你不是唐人？』是唐人為何不會講唐話！』一些在華埠長大的「竹昇」們也說：「小時候，以為全世界的人都說台山話，上了學後才開始學英文，後來眼見華人移民成份也多元化，才知道光是中國話就有許多種方言。隨著時代的發展，『說粵語的看不起說國語的』現象已經在被糾正。」

近年來，在中國城內外以及郊區出現的亞裔新興團體又與二十幾年前那批社區服務性組織不同，尤其是華埠以外的機構更以專業性、文化性為多，成員的知識水平也有很大的提高。當一九八零年，朱蓉女士發起成立中華藝苑時，那可以說是波士頓華人社區的首家以文化藝術為主要工作的機構，而以後，中華表演藝術基金會、紐英裔華人歷史協會、中華藝術協會、華夏文化協會、松竹藝術協會、以及眾多的中文學校和華人教會等接連湧現，近年來更出現了演藝沙龍、合唱團、舞蹈團、曲藝團等，一方面向主流社會傳揚中華文化藝術，另一方面也為華裔後代接續新傳並滿足社區民眾的文化娛樂要求。另外，各種各樣的專業人員協會、科技協會、商業協會也層出不窮，還有留學生和訪問學者的組織。這反映出華裔社區民眾的需要已從謀生、就業、衣食住行發展到更高層次的文化娛樂精神需求，以致這些文化教育藝術機構應運而生。

於九十年代初創建了華夏文化協會的王啓華女士說：「我來美國二十七年，感到尤其在波士頓這樣的大學與高科技公司雲集的文化都市，華人移民人口成長最快的是受過高等教育的專業人士階層。華人開辦的生意事業也不再只是餐館店鋪，而向高科技領域發展，據說近幾年麻州開辦技術公司的華裔中已出了幾位百萬富翁。因此，如今華人社區的含義已與二十多年前有所不同，社團機構的性質也有差異。」

華夏文化協會的服務宗旨是向美國主流社會宣傳中華文化，因此直接針對華人社區的貢獻不明顯，王啓華表示：「這也是我們這類機構的工作有時難以被本地社區理解支持的原因，但是我認為亞裔們也不能只在本地族裔的圈子裡轉，一定得讓美國主流社會了解我們承認我們是美國主流社會的一部分。我們的目標就是要溝通美國社會與亞裔社區。」她還指出美國社會的優點是變化發展快，而來自歷史悠久國家地區的移民群體反倒容易保守，但任何團體、組織或文化要想在這個飛速發展的社會中生存壯大，也得隨時調整策略適應外界的變化。

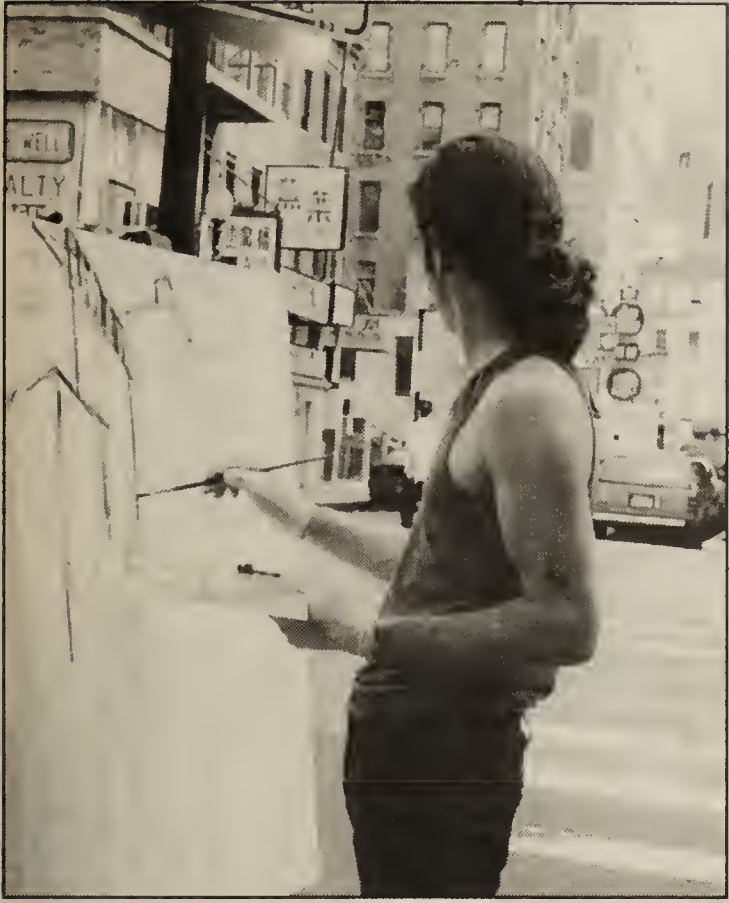
然而由於華人來自不同地域的特殊原因，新的社團也往往有來自中、港、台各地人群聚集的特徵，但隨著香港回歸中國以及海峽兩岸政局的變化，各類海外僑團之間的合作交流也逐漸加強。而由高知識水平華人專業人員組成的社團更懂得如何擴大社會影響與引起政府機構的注意，但弱點是為華人社區所做的實際貢獻尚不夠多，經濟實力也不夠強。而根據社區團體發展的歷史來看，如果光靠舉辦幾次大型活動來出名而缺乏腳踏實地的群眾基礎的話，仍不可能對社區和社會起到領導作用。這也是為何至今政府有關部門仍把中國城看作整個大波士頓地區華人社區的核心，將中華公所等最老的社團看作社區領導代表。

華人歷史協會的王柳娥女士說：「儘管如今的華埠已與二十多年前不同，郊區華人社團的發展更快，但在中國城，仍然是同一批較老的社團機構和人員在操縱命脈，也在左右政府官員的意志。例如前幾年，華埠反對紐英裔醫療中心在○地段建停車場的運動取得勝利，二十年前成立的一些社區服務機構（如昆士學校社區委員會、華人前進會、亞裔文化協會、亞美社區發展協會等）起了主要作用，但最後市政府還是把○地段的發展權交給了中華公所。」

甄雲龍、甄碧鳳等人表示：「中華公所管理領導華埠社區的職能，實際上已被七十年代產生的華埠社區議會所取代，但中華公所之所以還能具有相當的威望，是因為它究竟是數十家華人團體的聯合體，在本地社區是聲勢最大的。現在六、七十年代誕生的那一批社團也有了華埠社團聯盟，有十幾家社區加盟，也形成可與中華公所對抗的聯合體雛型，那麼郊區的、藝文性或專業性的華人團體是否也能走聯盟之路以力量更加強大呢？可惜的是，不少新社團反而還在鬧分裂和唱對台戲，這種彼此削弱的做法既不利於整個亞裔社會的團結，也不利於每個單獨社團的成長。」

華埠外貌的改變

華埠的外觀與形象也有很大的改變，曾任華埠主街計劃經理、現任職於波士頓重建局的甄碧鳳女士說：「我剛到波士頓的八十年代初，中國城的西面、北面是紅燈區，治安差沒人敢去，而且街道很髒亂，現在情況已不同了



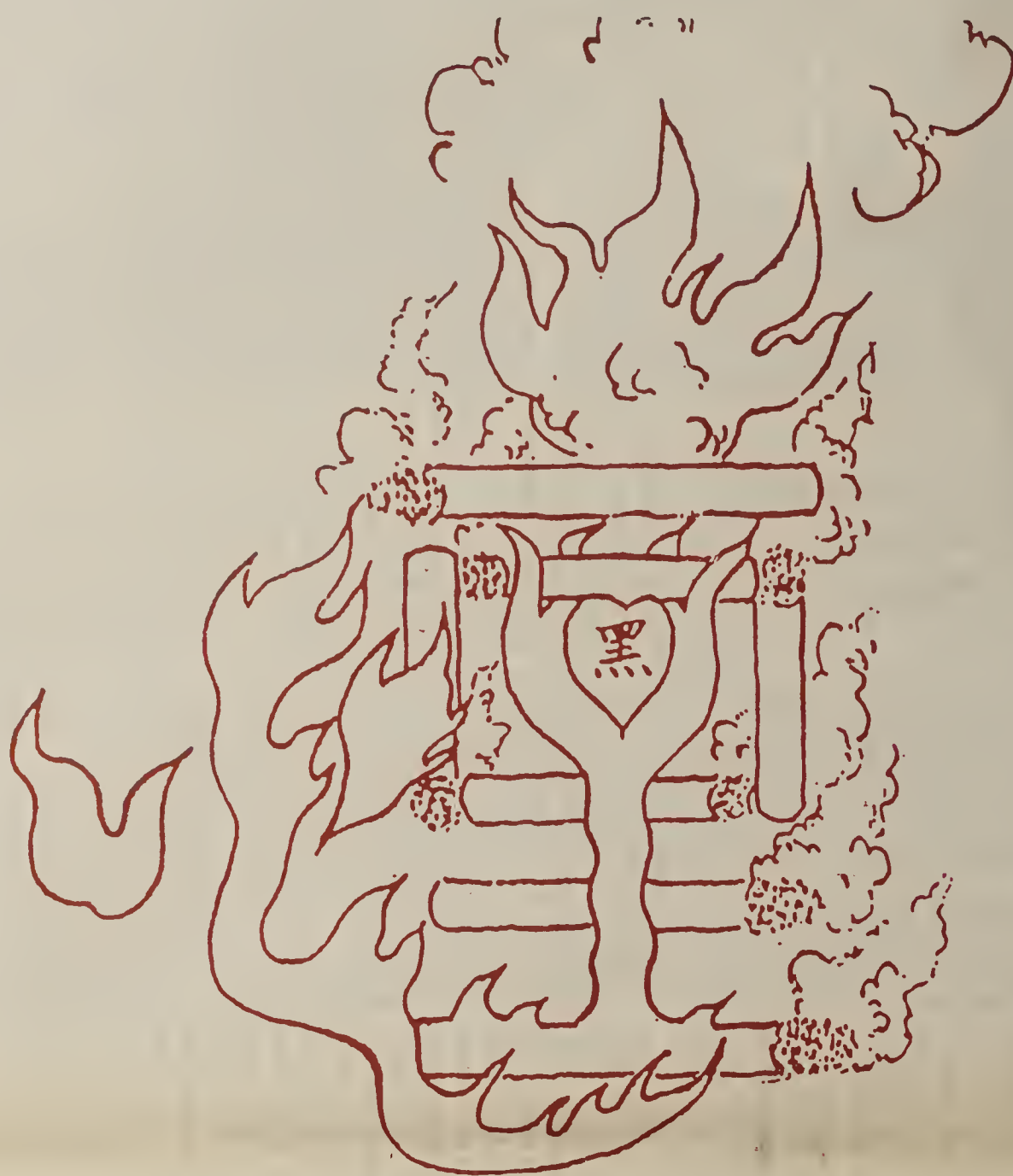
中國城景觀的改善吸引了藝術家前來繪畫



在政府官員眼中，中國城仍是華埠社區的中心，傳統社團仍是華裔人口的領袖



華埠治安仍令人擔心



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沈安平

我現在仍清楚記得八年前我來美不久在波士頓大學外國學生學者辦公室第一次讀到《舢舨》報的情景。在翻閱眾多的各類報刊雜誌時，我似乎對這份中英雙語同版發行的報紙印象最深。當然，談不上是「一見鐘情」，但從此之後，我只要有機會就喜歡翻閱，哪怕只是瀏覽一下這份頗有新意的《舢舨》雙語報。多年來，在海外求學求生的忙碌生活節奏之中，始終保留了對《舢舨》報的一份友誼。

後來，我為了一門社區教育課程的教職項目，又有機會走訪了位於波士頓市區中國城內的華美福利會（AACA）以及它屬下的《舢舨》編輯部。通過採訪及又進一步了解了華美福利會和舢舨報為華裔和亞裔社區服務的宗旨，以及其慘淡經營的艱辛。華美福利會二十五年來為在大波士頓地區、喧鬧、主流社會輿論中保持一個少數族裔的聲音而堅持出版《舢舨》，實屬不易。真是可敬可佩！

在過去的幾十年中，亞裔少數民族往往被主流媒介有意無意地形容為「模範少數族裔」，亞裔社區似乎也就是一片「大好形勢」。誠然，我們在《舢舨》上讀到令人興奮動情的故事及報導，例如，對新移民及有困難居民的幫助、華人及亞裔社區積極參與社區的各項政治活動，以及各種豐富多彩的家庭、文化、教育活動。最近，我在開設於中國城內的英語補習班上授課，我就給主要是由大陸新移民為主的學生講讀了《舢舨》報導的四個新移民如何在此獲得就讀社區學院的獎學金。這篇報導給我的不少學生以極大的鼓舞和激勵。

然而，華人及亞裔社區和其他少數族裔的社區一樣面臨著許多問題和挑戰。從舢舨報（當然還有其他媒介）上我也了解到諸如波士頓市內中國城的治安問題、勞資糾紛、土地使用及開發的爭論、種族之間的隔閡、以及社區團體內外的「爭吵」。正視和檢點自己的問題對任何人（或社區、文化）都是很困難的，但是對「愛講面子」的華人社區來說恐怕更是富有挑戰意義。但是，從我們讀到的《舢舨》上有關這些「負面形象」的中英文報導和評述來看，《舢舨》報應該說是保持了其應有的職業道德。我覺得舢舨報編輯部所有參與其事的同仁應該為此成就而引以為豪。

在過去的一年中，我在舢舨報中英文編輯的鼓勵和支持下也撰寫了數篇中英文文章。當我的幾篇有關雙文化教育與學習的文章見報之後，我收到來自不少同事朋友以及不相識的讀者的反饋：有好評當然也有批評與建議。說實話，我的博士論文及其他專業文章發表之後，卻一般都是「石沉大海」，幾乎聽不到任何讀者的反應。有了上述的交流，我現在已把自己看成是《舢舨》的忠實朋友了。正因為是朋友，我也想像此機會對舢舨同仁「忠言」幾句。

如果說我對《舢舨》有什麼期望的話，那麼我以為舢舨應該進一步加強報導那些對華人和亞裔社區有直接影響的社會、經濟、政治活動或事件。作為一份雙語報紙，《舢舨》報要及時進行新聞跟蹤報導有一定難度，但卻為製作有一定深度和廣度的新聞報導提供了時間條件。例如，去年舢舨報對波士頓拉丁學校招生中的少數族裔（亞裔除外）配額政策所引起的法庭內外辯論進行了有質量的專題報導。據說亞裔社區讀者對此所引起的反應是近幾年來極為少見的。目前，市長、州長及各級立法機構人選的程序即將開選，舢舨報似乎應該對有關華人亞裔社區的人選為讀者提供背景信息，及必要的選舉教育。此外，舢舨報似乎也應當擴大報導範圍，對大波士頓中國城以外地區（包括郊區市鎮）的華裔和亞裔活動、事件及還需要二個、三個……！

肺結核病對亞裔社區的影響

根據美國心臟學會最近發佈的一項有關亞裔肺結核病的研究報告，自一九八五年以來，儘管整體公眾中的肺結核發病率持續下降，而亞裔社區中的肺結核病例卻不斷上升。

波士頓市近期發佈的數據表明，亞裔與其他種族的肺結核病例有所區別，一九九五年發現的百分之三十的新病例是亞裔。

肺結核（簡稱TB）是通過呼吸空氣傳染的疾病，可由咳嗽、打噴嚏、歌唱和講話傳播或感染病菌。儘管傳染途徑與普通流感相似，肺結核卻與其他空氣傳染疾病有所不同，只有一小部分（約十分之一）受感染者會發病。許多人已被感染（接觸過病菌或已攜帶病菌），但卻沒發展成開放性（活動性）肺結核病例或對他人有威脅的傳染者。

那些具有較大風險發展成活動性肺結核患者的人，通常是來自此疾病發病率很高的國家的移民。這些國家包括中國、越南和許多非洲及東歐國家。其他風險因素包括長期接觸活動性肺結核患者，如家庭成員、配偶、朋友或同事；那些免疫系統較弱者，正接受藥物治療者，或最近才從亞洲來的移

民、難民、學生或旅遊者也具有患病風險。肺結核並不總是具傳染性而且有可能治愈。診斷方法包括皮膚試驗、唾液試驗和肺部X光檢查。治療過程一般需要口服藥品六個月左右。通常並不需住院治療。

結核病可發生於身體任何部位，但肺部是最常見的發病區。患上結核病的人可能具有下列某些或全部症狀：虛弱易勞累、夜間盜汗、體重減輕、發燒、食慾減退、劇烈咳嗽超過二周、發冷、血痰和肺部疼痛。

下列幾種人尤其應該進行結核病檢查：

- 與活動性肺結核病患者接觸過；
- 具有結核病徵狀；
- 在工作單位或學校要求做此類檢查；
- 免疫力差或正進行某些藥物治療；
- 來自結核病高發地區；
- 最近來自亞洲國家。

波士頓醫療中心（前波士頓市立醫院）提供免費肺結核檢查和治療，那裏有講亞洲語言的工作人員，包括中文（粵語和國語）、越南語、韓語（朝鮮語）及高棉語（柬埔寨語）。

有關肺結核病的詳情可電波士頓醫療中心結核病信息專線(617) 334-7875，或亞裔健康聯盟結核病幫助信息專線(617) 426-2278。

（亞裔健康聯盟 梅雪嫻）



舢舨每月專欄

十一月二十一日的每月專欄，將定為「醫療健康」。許多服務於社區的醫療護理機構將會與您見面，敬請期待。亦歡迎有關機構及醫生等專業人士惠登廣告。

共同推展亞裔結核病防治教育計劃的六家社區機構負責人獲得了紐英崙醫療中心的資助。

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